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ANNUAL REPORT
OF THE
MINNESOTA HISTORICAL SOCIETY,
TO THE
LEGISLATURE OF MINNESOTA,
FOR THE YEAR 1872. - 78



*Read and adopted at the Annual Meeting of the Society,
January 13, 1873.*

SAINT PAUL:
PRESS PRINTING COMPANY.
1873.

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3. WILLIAM H. KELLEY.

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REPORT OF THE EXECUTIVE COUNCIL.

The Historical Society has just closed a very successful year, perhaps in many respects the most so of its career, and in presenting their Annual Report, the Executive Council again congratulates the members, and the people of the State generally, on the gratifying condition of usefulness and success to which it has advanced. It has now reached a stage in which it can compare favorably with similar societies in older states, very much longer established, and under much more favorable advantages for accomplishing the work devolving on such institutions. These facts are mentioned, not in any spirit of boasting, or self-praise, but to show that our condition is creditable to the generous and enlightened action of our State, which has mainly enabled us to accomplish what we have.

THE LIBRARY.

During the past year we have received as accessions to the library, as follows: Bound volumes, 577; pamphlets and unbound volumes, 233; photographs, 41; MSS, 5; engravings, 29; curiosities, 97; newspapers, 2; broadsides, 6; maps, 14.

The sources from which the bound volumes were received is as follows: By gift and exchange, 70; by purchase, 409; binding, 79.

The total number of bound volumes in the library at present, is 5296, and of pamphlets, 8390, or in all, 13,686 pub-



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lications, being by far the largest, as we consider it the most valuable, collection in the State.

PRINCIPAL WORKS ADDED.

The following partial list of gifts and purchases of works will show what are the nature and value of the principal accessions to our bound books the past year :

American Indians and Antiquities.—Ojibwa Testament; Tanner's Narrative of Indian Captivity; Stone's Life of Brant; Life of Red Jacket; Logan and Cresap; McKenney & Hall's Indian Tribes of North America, 3 vols.; American Life and Character; Traditional History of the Ojibwas; Drake's Book of the Indians; History of the Baptist Indian Missions; Morse's Report on Indian Affairs, 1822; Costumes, Habits and Character of the Aborigines of America.

Politics and Political Economy.—Cobden Club Essays, 2nd Series; The Oberlin Wellington Rescue; Thompson's Lectures and Debates on Slavery; De Tocqueville's Democracy; The Federalist, 2 vols.; The Pamphleteer, 22 vols.; Bound pamphlets on Slavery, 3 vols.

The Rebellion.—The Sanitary Commission in the Valley of the Mississippi; Orders of the War Department, 1861-65, 2 vols.; History of the 8th Wisconsin Volunteers; Army of the Cumberland, 5th Annual Reunion; Prison Prose and Poetry, (Confederate.)

Public Documents.—Blue Book, 1872: Journals and Documents of Congress, 28 vols.; Congressional Globe, 5 vols.; Patent Office Specifications, New Series, 54 vols.

Encyclopedias and Works of Reference.—Haydn's Dictionary of Sciences; do. of the Bible; do. of Dates; Chambers' Encyclopedia of Literature, 2 vols.; do. of Information, 2 vols.; Fosbrooke's Encyclopedia of Antiquities, 2 vols.; Lewis's Topographical Dictionary of England, Scotland, Ireland, &c., 15 vols.; Appleton's Annual Encyclopedia for 1871; Thom's Irish Almanac, 1872; Edinburg Almanac, 1872; British Almanac and Companion, 1872; Hone's Every Day Book, 4 vols.; Historical Record for 1872.

Bibliographical.—Sabin's Dictionary of American Books, 6 parts; Private Libraries of New York; Allibone's Dictionary of Authors, 3 vols.; British Museum Hand Book; Notes sur la Nouvelle France, (Harris); Second Supplement to the Catalogue of the N. Y. Mercantile Library; Index Catalogue of the New York State Library.

European History.—Lingard's History of England, 10 volumes; Benton's Naval History of England, 3 vols.; Fuller's Church History of England, 3 vols.; Nichol's Pedigree of the English People; Russell's Modern Europe, 4 vols.; Knight's Pictorial History of England, 8 vols.; Gibbon's Rome, 2 vols.

Works on the West and Northwest.—Carver's Travels, third London edition; Colton's Tour of the Great Lakes; Narrative of Occurrences in the Indian Countries of North American; Umphreville's Hudson Bay; Sheldon's Michigan; Annals of San Francisco; McFie's Van Couver's Island and British Columbia; Lea's Notes on Wisconsin Territory; Minnesota as a Home for Invalids; Red River, by J. J. Hargraves; Wisconsin Legislative Manual for 1872; James Hall's "Statistics of the West;" Tales of the Northwest, by William J. Snelling; The Net in the Bay, by the Bishop of Rupert's Land; Hudson's Bay, or Every Day Life in the Wilds of North America; Agassiz's Lake Superior.

Travels and Explorations in America, Descriptive Works, &c.—Kendall's Santa Fe Expedition, two volumes; Coxe's Carolana; Trollope's Domestic Manners of the Americans, two volumes; Ross's Narrative of Arctic Explorations; Dicken's American Notes; Faux's Memorable Days; Bouchette's Canada; Parry's Journal of Arctic Exploration; Whymper's Alaska; Featherstonhaugh's Excursion through the Slave States, two volumes; Humboldt's Travels, seven volumes; Miss Martineau's Retrospect of Western Travel; Van Couver's Voyage, six volumes; Brantz Mayer's Mexico; Bradbury's Travels; Mrs. Ellet's Summer Rambles in the West.

General American, State or Local History.—Gordon's American Independence, four volumes; Niles' Principles

and Acts of the Revolution; Lossing's Field Book of the Revolution, two volumes; Elliot's Debates on the Federal Constitution, five volumes; Conwallis' Correspondence, three volumes; Williams' History of the Invasion and Capture of Washington; Sabine's Loyalists; Cooper's Naval History of the United States, two volumes; Massachusetts Historical Collections, twenty-three volumes; Prescott's Conquest of Mexico, three vols.; Stiles' History of Winsor, Connecticut; Hudson's History of Lexington, Massachusetts; Barry's History of Hanover, Massachusetts; Jackson's History of Newton, Massachusetts; Bartlett's Pilgrim Fathers; Stiles' History of Brooklyn, three volumes; Hough's Siege of Charleston; Hough's Siege of Savannah; Rhode Island Historical Collections, four volumes; Williamsburg Orderly Book; Collins' Sketches of Kentucky; Jones' Oneida County, New York; Clarke's Onondaga County, New York, two volumes; Marbois' History of Louisiana; Annals of the Iowa Historical Society, six volumes; Robertson's History of America, two volumes; Early History of the Falls of the Schuylkill; Westfield, Massachusetts Bi-Centenary; Long Island Historical Collections, two volumes; Annals of Tryon County, New York; Cists' Cincinnati in 1851.

Genealogy, Biography and Heraldry.—Visitations of Oxfordshire and Devonshire, (Harleian MSS.) Drake's Dictionary of American Biography; Patronymica Britannica; Anderson's Surnames; New England Historical and Genealogical Register, 1872; New York Genealogical and Biographical Record, 1872; Lippincott's Dictionary of Biography, 2 vols.; Hayden's Index of Biography; De Brett's Peerage, Baronetage and Commons, 3 vols.; Williment's Regal Heraldry; Bradford's Arms of the Bishops; Ellis' Antiquities of Heraldry; Burke's Pedigrees of Extinct Baronets; Genealogies of the following American families:—Appleton, Alden, Abbott, Allen, Bolles, Bellows, Bergen, Brattle, Clark, Capron, Cushman, Channey, Drake, Dudley, Day, Dumaresq, Fiske, Foister, Fuller, Foote, Gilman, Goodwin, Guild, Gale, Grant, Glover, Hutchinson and Oliver, Hutchinson and Marbury, Hurlbut, Holt, Hastings, Hoyt,

Huntingdon, Hunt, Harris, Hall, Holmes, Hosmer, Holton, Jarvis, Judd, Kilbourn, Lawrence, Loomis, Macy, Montgomery, Mudge, Olmstead, Pratt, Peck, Peabody, Richardson, Redfield, Stranahan, Stetson, Rawson, Stiles, Stoddard, Steele, Shattuck, Stickney, Slafter, Todd, Van Brunt, Vinton, Ward, Watkin and Winchell; Durrie's Index to American Pedigrees; Savage's Genealogical Dictionary, 4 vols.; Samuel Adams' Life and Services, 3 vols.; Life of Gov. N. Edwards, of Ill.; Obituary Addresses on Daniel Webster; Hazlett's Napoleon; Memoir of Licat. Greble, U. S. A.; Life of Josiah Quincy.

PURCHASES.

The amount expended during 1872 for books was slightly in excess of any previous year. In all \$965 were paid for books, purchasing 409 bound volumes, being an average of about \$2.10 per volume. Considering the rarity and high price of some classes of works we are collecting, such as encyclopedias and costly works of reference, this average cost is certainly low, as any experienced book gatherer must admit. Some of these works have been out of print for many years, and only turn up at long intervals in catalogues of book sales. These are carefully and vigilantly watched, and our arrangements for securing them are very complete and satisfactory. Any one examining the list before given must agree that the works are very suitable to our library and entirely within the purview of such an institution. In view of the competition now going on between the purveyors of our numerous public and private libraries, we have been very fortunate in securing the choice works mentioned, so that we can congratulate ourselves in having made substantial and good progress during the year, towards accumulating such a library as an institution like this should have. We say "towards" accumulating it, for while valuable generally and full in many departments, it is yet very far from the collection we hope ultimately to have.

PRESENT CONDITION OF THE LIBRARY.

Still, we have good reason for feeling a pride in it as it is, and to show this, a glance at its general condition may not be uninteresting to our friends and patrons who have had no opportunity of visiting it.

Our first business was, of course, to secure every work relating directly or indirectly, in whole or in part, to Minnesota. This we have accomplished so completely, that on our shelves will be found almost everything that can illustrate the history of Minnesota. There are only one or two trifling publications known on this subject that we have failed to secure. Even pamphlets, transient issues of the press, broadsides, programmes, circulars, waifs that are generally thrown aside at the time as "trash,"—there is nothing apparently too trivial to find a place in our collection on our own State. Hence, our collection is necessarily very complete, and as we have been some eight or ten years in accomplishing this, it would in all probability require that much time for any other institution to procure a similar collection, even if at this day it could be done at all. We have reason to know that our works on this subject have proved of the very greatest value and usefulness to our citizens in many ways, and it is now pretty generally understood that when a book or document cannot be found anywhere else, the "Historical Society has it." The numerous references to this department for statistical or other information by persons sometimes taking journeys of considerable length for the purpose, and even the use of our documents as evidence in courts, fully establishes its value and usefulness.

On the subject of western and north-western history, geography, and descriptive works, to which we are also, of course, giving special attention, we are beginning to be very strong, some 500 works directly embraced under that head, and many more intimately connected with it, evinces our diligent and successful search in that field. They embrace very many of the early voyages and explorations in "Nouvelle France," and "Louisiana," and the descriptive and his-

torical writings of the early French explorers and *Relations* of the Jesuit missionaries. We have still much to do in this field, but if we continue to have means, the works needed cannot much longer escape the vigilant eyes of our book committee. In some special portions of this department we are almost absolutely complete. For instance, one of our sub-specialties has been the Red River, or Hudson's Bay region. It is pleasant to know that almost every work pertaining to that region mentioned in Bibliographies dating from 1744 to the present year, including also documents of the Canadian and British Parliaments down to the close of the "Riel Rebellion" is in our Library. Gentlemen from Manitoba who have examined it say there is no collection so complete in all British America, save in the Parliamentary Library at Ottawa. Our collection on the West, generally, is designed to include the central States and Territories, Government explorations, geological or scientific and topographical surveys in what are now known as Dakota, Nebraska, Colorado, Montana, &c., and even Oregon and Washington and the Pacific Coast, as a good collection of works on British Columbia and Van Couver's Island testify. Our travels and explorations in America, particularly the west, include the most valuable works down to a late period.

On general American and State History we are accumulating a fine collection, and local history has not been overlooked as far as our means would permit. So many of these works having been published only by subscription, and becoming so soon out of print, makes it difficult to collect them. They are high priced, but absolutely indispensable to the Library we hope time and means will enable us to accumulate. The publications of most of the Historical and Antiquarian Societies of the United States are also in our Library. Of documentary and archival works pertaining to the United States, we have a very fine collection, embracing complete sets of the Annals of Congress, Force's American Archives, American State Papers, Congressional Globe, Elliot's Debates, and other works of that class. Niles' Register might

be mentioned in this connection. The documents and Journals of Congress, several hundred volumes, have been secured complete from 1844 to the present time, a period of almost 30 years. We have also the publications of several States, Colonial and Provincial Papers, etc., those of New York, Pennsylvania, New Hampshire, Rhode Island, &c., being most prominent, and of the more valuable publications of various States, such as Legislative and Executive Documents, Agricultural, Educational and Statistical Reports, Geological Surveys, Journals and Statutes, we have a large number.

European History, both ancient and modern, has also received the attention due in a library of this nature. Of English History alone we have a collection numbering 300 volumes, 220 of which are the very valuable, and in some cases rare, publications of the British Record Commission. Of standard magazines and reviews, such as Blackwood's, the Edinburgh, Dodsley's Register, Hunt's Merchants' Magazine, Historical Magazine, and others, we have complete or nearly complete sets.

A number of works of reference, such as Dictionaries, Gazetteers, Encyclopedias, (among the latter both the American and Britannica,) works costly, but indispensable, will give the reader ample facilities for reference on almost any imaginable topic. This department will still be extended. While the lover of Genealogy—and nearly every one now seems tinctured with a taste for that interesting study—will find on our shelves over 100 of the best general works on the subject, besides pedigrees of a great number of separate families, an entire library of a collector being among the purchases the past year. The biographical department is also strong, as well as the subject of the North American Indians, a class of works in great demand by collectors just now. In Bibliography, a necessary class of works in a library, we have a few of great value and desirability. On the subject of American Slavery and the Rebellion, another class of works now much sought after by collectors and libraries, we have a considerable number—the foreshadow-

ing, we trust, of a choice and valuable alcove filled with those works—including not only bound volumes, but pamphlets, scrap-books of newspaper cuttings, MSS. (such as Confederate and Union Order Books), and Confederate public documents, trophies, battle relics, &c.

Of American Patent Office Reports, we have all from 1844, and the only set in the State of the new series. The latter are referred to more fully elsewhere.

Our newspaper collection is one of the most valuable features of our library, and so far as Minnesota journals are concerned, is so nearly complete that we can excusably boast of its value. It is referred to more fully in another place. Our pamphlet collection, also more fully described elsewhere, is too becoming a source of pride, and now numbers over 8,000 separate volumes and documents. Of maps and charts of the northwest, and Minnesota in particular, we have a very fine collection, being in some sub-series, almost complete. In portraits, engravings and MSS., we have made gratifying progress towards a good collection.

We make this exhibit to show that our expenditures and efforts the past six or eight years have not been without abundant fruit, but wisely and successfully directed to building up a collection which is undeniably a credit to the State, of intrinsic value far greater than its cost, and which, if continued with the success which it has hitherto enjoyed, must soon become, if it is not now, an institution in our State that no citizen can fail to feel a just pride in.

GIFTS.

Very many and very generous have been the gifts bestowed on us the past year by our patrons. We can, however, only enumerate a few of the principal ones. Hon. Alex. Ramsey has secured for us thirty-one volumes of Congressional Publications; Hon. M. H. Dunnell, thirteen, and Hon. J. T. Averill, fourteen. The Ohio Hist. and Philosophical Society places us in their debt for eleven volumes and eighty pamphlets, all very desirable. W. M. Stees, of St.

Paul, nine volumes; G. J. Rice, eight volumes; Capt. R. Blakeley, three very valuable books. Smaller, but no less welcome additions have been made by Capt. W. M. Heath, Hon. J. S. Letford, of Carver, A. Lasher, A. J. Hill, Rev. E. F. Slafter, of Boston, Maj. Gen. Hancock and others. Gifts of newspaper files, pamphlets, maps, curiosities, &c., are mentioned under those special heads, and a complete list of donors of books and pamphlets given in the appendix, to which reference is hereby made. The Society gratefully appreciates the generous contributions of our friends, to whom our thanks are returned, in general and in particular.

PAMPHLETS.

Our pamphlet collection has received a large accession of valuable documents the past year, both by purchase, exchange and gift. The principal donors are Irving Todd, 84; E. P. Boon, N. Y., 57; Rev. J. F. Tuttle, 5; Hon. Alex. Ramsey, 14; Hon. James Shaw, Ill., 25; F. A. Holden, 4; Dr. Samuel A. Green, 11; Maryland Historical Society, 17; Astor Library, N. Y., 24; Ohio Historical and Philosophical Society, 80; J. F. Williams, 9. Most of these are choice and valuable. Our Pamphlet collection has now increased to over 8,000 numbers. It is especially rich on many subjects now much sought for by collectors. Most of the pamphlets are assorted by subjects, and tied in temporary volume covers. When our collection becomes somewhat more complete, many of them can profitably be bound, thus forming a very valuable collection.

PATENT OFFICE SPECIFICATIONS.

The old issue of Patent Office Reports, with which every one is familiar, and looked on generally as so much rubbish, to be ultimately thrown into the waste basket, has been superseded by a new series, more full and explicit in the specifications, and handsomely illustrated. These are not distributed in the hap-hazard, broadcast style of the old

reports, but sets are deposited with certain libraries in each State, under regulations made by Congress. Through the kind influence of Gov. Austin, this Library was designated as the one, [and the only one under the act of Congress mentioned] in this State, to be the depository of a set of the specifications. Taken in connection with our series of the past twenty-eight years, it forms a valuable library of reference for the mechanics, inventors and artisans of our State, and is very largely consulted, sometimes by persons from a considerable distance. Fifty-four volumes have been issued during the year, and at the rate of their issue, the series will alone fill an alcove in a few months.

NEWSPAPERS.

The value and importance of this department of our Library can hardly be rightly estimated, except by one like the Librarian, who daily sees evidences of it. We now receive over one hundred journals, comprising nearly all of those printed in this State. These are the generous gifts of the publishers, and have been contributed to us with the understanding that they are to be preserved by the Society as a collection of the journalistic literature of the State, reflecting credit on that honorable profession, and at the same time of great use and value to the citizens. The collection, arrangement, care and completion of so many issues, of course demands a considerable share of the Librarian's time, but not disproportioned to the value of the department as compared with the rest of the Library. That care has enabled us to exhibit with peculiar pride the shelves strained with the weight of over 300 bound volumes of these works, while we have also at least 100 volumes ready for the binder. They extend back over a full century of our national existence, and may be said to chronicle with more than a historian's accuracy or minuteness, the important events of that period. Of many of the journals of our State we have the only existing files. And so valuable—so utterly irreplaceable by any sum of money, indeed, has our whole

collection become, it makes us solicitous for their safety, and is the principal argument for that fire-proof depository in which we hope ere many years to secure our bibliothecal treasures. Their destruction by fire would be a loss to the State *now* incalculable, to be more and more keenly deplored as years roll on. In addition to the journals above mentioned, regularly sent to us by the publishers, we have received by purchase and gift a number of others. From M. C. Russell, of Brainerd, 2 bound volumes of the Winona Daily Democrat, 1865; from G. A. Hamilton, six volumes, unbound, of various journals; from Col. John H. Stevens, of Minneapolis, files of early territorial papers; from Rev. John Mattocks, some additions to the very valuable lot of Revolutionary papers contributed by him last year; from J. D. Nickerson, 3 volumes of the Army and Navy Journal, &c., &c. Arrangements were made during the year to secure the leading dailies of New York, Philadelphia, Cincinnati, Chicago, and other principal cities, these forming in a short time a journalistic library invaluable for reference on almost every conceivable topic of the times.

PORTRAITS, MAPS, CURIOSITIES, &c.

Our appeal to our old pioneers and prominent men for their portraits, has met with some response. We have received their photographs at least, and hope in time for something more durable and satisfactory. It ought not to be fear of an accusation of vanity that prevents the pioneers of our State from depositing their portraits with us to preserve for the generations to come after us, for we have requested them to do so, as a *duty* they owe to an institution like this, and they should comply in that light. During the summer our Librarian, while on a visit East, discovered, and procured a copy of a portrait of Col. Josiah Snelling. Perhaps other portraits of pioneers, not now known to be in existence, can be discovered and procured. It would be gratifying to have those of every one prominently connected with the history of Minnesota. Some valuable pictures and

engravings have been contributed by John McAllister, the well known antiquarian of Philadelphia; also by Geo. R. Stuntz, of Duluth; and thirty-five photographs from the justly celebrated gallery of Charles E. Zimmerman, of St. Paul. We regret that our wall room is now so limited we can scarcely do justice in hanging the pictures we have received.

Some very valuable maps, most of them pertaining to Minnesota, or to the region closely surrounding it, have been contributed by Geo. Freudenreich, Hon. G. A. Ruckholt, A. J. Hill, L. W. Stratton, Gen. M. D. Flower, G. Jay Rice, F. B. Mayer, Maj. Gen. Hancock, J. M. Wing and W. A. Truesdell, and others. Our map and atlas department is rapidly becoming full and valuable, and is augmented by purchases as we have opportunity.

A very valuable and complete set of the copper and nickel coins of the United States, from 1787 down, 85 in number, was presented to us by H. R. Frothingham, of Charlestown, Mass. Curious and interesting relics of the late civil strife have been received from Dr. P. Barton, Charles Eaton and others. From E. D. B. Porter, a handsome cane made from the gallows at Mankato on which the 38 Indian murderers were executed in 1862, and other valuable additions to our cabinet from Ex-Gov. Miller, Charles H. Oakes, J. B. Chaney, H. D. Champlin, W. W. Champlin, Maj. Gen. Hancock, S. J. Willard, Dr. P. L. Hatch, A. Moore, Sr., and others. Unless our apartments are enlarged we will soon have little or no room to properly display our cabinet.

FINANCES.

The Treasurer's books show the expenditures of the Society the past year to be as follows:

Books, - - - - -	\$965 00
Binding, - - - - -	68 00
Express and freight, - - - - -	72 18
Postage, - - - - -	54 34
Stationery, - - - - -	11 35
Furniture, - - - - -	166 40
Miscellaneous, - - - - -	27 70
Printing, - - - - -	12 40
Insurance [for three years,] - - - - -	150 00
Salary of Librarian, - - - - -	1,100 00
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	\$2,627 67

LIBRARY WORK AND MANAGEMENT.

Hitherto our Secretary has been also our Acting Librarian, thus devolving on one officer the entire management of the work and details of the library, which, with the other duties required of him—duties, too, quite varied and opposite in their nature—has more fully engrossed his time the past year than the proper care of health would usually warrant. It has been, however, in a great measure unavoidable, in order to give the greatest possible accommodation to the public. Our library is perfectly free in every respect. Perhaps no library in the country places less restrictions on its use and enjoyment than are enforced in this. The most free and unlimited use consistent with safety and proper care of the books is allowed to all. It is also open a greater number of hours than any library in the United States, having but one attendant. For several months past it has been open twelve and fourteen hours out of every twenty-four—not even excepting holidays. No effort has been spared to learn and adopt the best regulations for arrangement and classification, numbering and preservation of books, and care of various articles, which are in force in other libraries. During the past year our librarian visited nearly fifty of the best public libraries in the United States, carefully studying their economy and modes of management. The experience

thus gained has been profitably applied to the regulation of our own library.

RE-ISSUE OF OUR COLLECTIONS.

In our last annual report, reference was made to the fact that the first volume of our Collections was entirely out of print, and there was an urgent necessity for its re-publication, as there were frequent demands for it. The fact having been communicated to the Legislature, with very gratifying appreciation that body ordered the work to be executed by the State Printer. It has been completed in creditable style, and will extend our system of exchanges very much.

ROOMS.

There still appears, as yet, no way in which our apartments can be enlarged, but we need more room very urgently. Our Librarian has about exhausted all his resources of arrangement, in providing shelf-room for books and arranging the cases so as not to overcrowd the room. We must soon, however, have more space or be actually retarded in our work and progress.

MATERIALS FOR MINNESOTA HISTORY.

During the past year, a determined effort has been made to secure from our old pioneers and early settlers, an account of their own personal adventures and experiences in the early settlement of Minnesota, and other reminiscences of the pioneer days of our State. Circulars asking for written statements embodying the above, were sent to all whose address could be reached, and also, printed in several newspapers. The result was most gratifying. Nearly all kindly responded, some very full and complete, others more meagerly, but all giving valuable information, nowhere else on record, and placing in the archives of this Society a large mass of materials for the early history of the State, and

memorials of its pioneers, whose value cannot be estimated in money. We hope to successfully continue our efforts in this direction until our record and account of the first settlement of every county and town in the State is complete. This must be done soon, if at all, or those who alone can supply the material needed will be no more. Rapidly, very rapidly, they are passing away, and soon the last name on the fast-shortening roll will be erased. We urge our members, correspondents and patrons feeling an interest in this work, to redoubled vigilance and activity. Let each one secure the account of some aged pioneer in his reach, and forward it to us. Some have already done so. The whole burden of this should not be left to rest on the only working officer we have. He is doing all that perhaps can, under the circumstances, be done, but the details of the work and management of our now large and rapidly increasing library, and its rapidly increasing use by the public, now engross so much of his time, that it really leaves him but little opportunity to collect and write up the material referred to, nor can he be expected to make journeys into distant parts of the State to collect these facts, unless relieved from his duties here. We must therefore ask the co-operation of our friends and members everywhere. If this material is not collected, the Society cannot justly be blamed with the neglect, as they have done what they could with the means at their disposal.

We again appeal urgently for original papers for the future issues of our Collections. There are in our State a number of gentlemen interested in historical research, who are amply qualified to enrich our pages with articles on Minnesota history, and we hope that through the coming year they may be induced to furnish an abundance of contributions, which we will endeavor to promptly publish.

OUR THREE-FOLD WORK.

What, it might be asked by one unacquainted with the work which the Society is attempting to perform, is its peculiar province? In the foregoing report we have endeavored to

answer this inquiry in full, and it might be summarised as follows :

I. The collection and care of such a library of reference as can in no other way be secured for the State, to include everything needed for those studying its history, statistics, geography, laws and institutions, its current journalistic literature, and at the same time a general library of works and documents on American history not generally found in other collections, and which can be gathered only by the means we have adopted, as past experience shows.

II. The collection, preservation from loss, and arrangement, of original material illustrating the history of the State; the early settlement of every portion of it; memoirs of its pioneers, accounts of their adventures and incidents; manuscripts illustrating these facts; portraits and views; and the arrangement and compilation of this material in a form accessible and convenient for use, so as to best illustrate and record the progress and growth of the State since its first settlement. This material can only be secured by keeping constant pace with the events indicated. To delay their collection a few years is equivalent to losing them altogether, as older States have discovered, compelling them ultimately to expend large sums to imperfectly perform what we are now doing, perfectly and completely, with little or no expense.

III. The proper selection from the original material thus obtained, of portions worthy of publication, and their issue in a proper form, so as to disseminate among the people of the State, and elsewhere, full and authentic information concerning it.

Such, briefly, are some of the main portions of our work, which it will be noticed constitutes quite a wide and important field of labor, one that could be filled by no other institution. Yet amid all the difficulties at first surrounding us, of small means and insufficient facilities, our success in carrying forward our work has been gratifying and more complete than could have been at first hoped for. Grateful to the people of the State for their encouragement, aid and

good will, we trust that our growth and progress in the future will keep pace in all the elements of prosperity with that of the commonwealth, reflecting still more credit on the boasted intelligence, liberality and public spirit of its people, which can alone sustain and render useful an institution like our own.

APPENDIX.

LIST OF DONORS—1872.

FROM INDIVIDUALS.

	Bound Vols.	Pamphlets.
Rev. W. S. Alexander, Racine, Wis.....	2	
Hon. John T. Averill, St. Paul.....	13	
Charles E. Anthon, New York.....		1
Rev. C. D. Bradlee, Boston.....		2
Dr. Charles H. Boardman, St. Paul.....		1
E. P. Boon, New York.....		57
Capt. R. Blakeley, St. Paul.....	3	
Gustave Bossange, Paris.....	1	
Josiah B. Chaney, St. Paul.....		2
Chandler P. Chapman, Madison, Wis.....	1	1
Robert Clarke, Cincinnati.....	1	1
Hon. Henry A. Castle, St. Paul.....		3
Richard Chute, St. Anthony.....		1
Daniel S. Durrie, Madison, Wis.....	1	
Hon. M. H. Dunnell.....	13	
James Davenport, St. Paul.....		1
Maj. Gen. J. Watts, De Peyster, N. Y.....		2
E. Page Davis, N. Y.....		2
Ferdinand J. Dreer, Philadelphia.....	1	
Hon. W. W. Folwell, State University.....		3
Dr. Samuel A. Green, Boston.....		11
Charles V. Hagner, Philadelphia.....	1	
Maj. Gen. W. S. Hancock.....	2	
Alfred J. Hill, St. Paul.....	3	1
F. A. Holden, Washington.....		4
James J. Hill, St. Paul.....	1	
Capt. W. M. Heath, St. Paul.....	2	2
Gen. A. A. Humphreys, U. S. A.....		1
Johnson & Smith, Minneapolis.....		4
Hon. S. P. Jennison, Red Wing.....		1
J. F. Loubat, New York.....	1	
Hon. John S. Letford, Carver.....	2	6

Alpheus Lasher, St. Paul.....	2	
Dr. Brewer Mattocks, St. Paul.....	1	
Gen. Albert J. Myer, Signal Bureau.....		1
Alfred Moore, St. Paul.....	1	
Rev. E. D. Neill, St. Anthony.....		1
Capt. M. J. O'Connor, St. Paul.....	1	
Prof. Wm. F. Phelps, Winona.....		1
Geo. H. Preble, Charlestown, Mass.....		1
Hon. Alex. Ramsey, St. Paul.....	31	14
M. C. Russell, Brainerd.....	2	
G. Jay Rice, St. Paul.....	8	
F. L. O. Roehrig, Ithaca, N. Y.....		1
Capt. I. F. A. Studdart, St. Paul.....		1
Hon. James Shaw, Mt. Carroll, Ill.....		25
W. Hudson Stephens, Lowville, N. Y.....	1	
W. M. Stees, St. Paul.....	9	
Rev. E. F. Slafter, Boston.....	2	
Rev. J. W. Strong, Northfield.....		4
Rev. H. A. Stimson, Minneapolis.....		3
J. L. Sibley, Cambridge, Mass.....		1
Irving Todd, Hastings.....		84
Rev. J. F. Tuttle, Crawfordsville, Ind.....		5
Hon. Charles Taylor, Northfield.....		2
Addison Van Name, New Haven, Conn.....		14
J. W. Wing, Anoka, Minn.....		2
Hon. Thomas H. Wynne, Richmond, Va.....		1
Prof. N. H. Winchell, State University.....	1	1
J. F. Williams.....	2	9
Donors unknown.....	8	5

FROM SOCIETIES AND INSTITUTIONS.

Peabody Museum of Archaeology, Cambridge.....		1
Maryland Historical Society.....		17
Peabody Academy of Sciences, Salem.....		1
Royal Danish Society of Antiquaries.....		5
Verein für Kunst und Alterthum.....		1
Minnesota State University.....	1	
Leeds Philosophical and Literary Society, England.....		1
Geolog. and Polytech. Society of West Riding of Yorkshire.....		1
University of Lund, Sweden.....		7
Astor Library, New York.....		24
Essex Institute, Salem.....		3
State Board of Health, Mass.....	1	
Board of Public Charities, Pennsylvania.....	1	
Oberlausitzischen Gesellschaft, Gorlitz, Germany.....		2
Northern Pacific Railroad.....		3
Wisconsin Historical Society.....	3	
Department of Interior.....	29	
Patent Office.....	54	
Washington University, St. Louis.....		1
Historical Society of Delaware.....		2
Soc. Hollandaise des Sciences a Harlem.....		10
American Antiquarian Society.....		2

New Jersey Historical Society.....	1	2
Swedish Central Bureau of Statistics.....		31
Ohio Histor'l and Philos'l Society.....	11	80
San Francisco Mercantile Library Association.....		1
Royal Historical and Arch'l Ass'n of Ireland.....	1	1
Cobden Club, England.....	1	2
Peabody Institute, Baltimore.....		1
Mercantile Library, New York.....	1	1
Long Island Historical Society.....	2	
New York State Library.....	1	
Licking Co. (O.) Pioneer Association.....		1

ANNUAL REPORT
OF THE
MINNESOTA HISTORICAL SOCIETY,
TO THE
LEGISLATURE OF MINNESOTA,
FOR THE YEAR 1873.



*Read and adopted at the Annual Meeting of the Society,
January 12, 1874.*

SAINT PAUL:
ST. PAUL PRESS COMPANY.
1874.

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OFFICERS OF THE SOCIETY.

PRESIDENT:

HON. GEO. L. BECKER.

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2. DR. J. H. MURPHY,
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R. O. Sweeney,
Gen. H. H. Sibley,
J. F. Williams.

REPORT OF THE EXECUTIVE COUNCIL.

Since our last annual report, the Society has made gratifying progress in all departments of its work. Our plans for its proper management have all been very successfully carried out, and in every respect it has gone on, quietly and fully accomplishing the work for which it was organized. In presenting our seventh annual report to the Legislature, we do so with much gratification at the exhibit we are enabled to make, a record of encouraging progress, as the result of persevering work and careful attention.

LIBRARY.

During the year 1873, we have received the following accessions to the library: Bound volumes, 347; pamphlets, 340; photographs, 2; MSS, 6; engravings and paintings, 8; curiosities, 13; maps, 11.

The sources from which the bound volumes were received are as follows: purchase, 141; gift and exchange, 163; binding, 43.

The total number of volumes in the library at present, are: bound, 5,643; unbound, 8,730; total, 14,373, being, if we mistake not, the largest collection in the State. Of mere numbers, however, we do not wish to boast. Our aim has been value and merit, not bulk.

PURCHASES.

The limited means at our disposal for purchase of books,

has been very judiciously, carefully and economically expended. In all, \$355.57 was invested in this manner, purchasing 141 bound volumes, being an average of \$2.52 per volume. Those who have, within a few months past, purchased the kind of works which we are endeavoring to secure, will readily see that the average price paid is really a low one. If cheapness were a consideration, we could have reported much larger accessions to our list. But the class of works we are now securing are scarce and dear, and each year their value and scarcity is increasing. It is fortunate that we have already made such progress, or the difficulty and cost of securing them would be very embarrassing to us. The gifts we receive, also aid us and lighten our expenditure. We can now point to our well filled shelves with satisfaction. With so much accomplished by several years of careful attention, we have now reached a stage when all apprehensions concerning our ability to finally secure such a library as we should have, must be quieted. Our library committee, with their present experience, are entitled both to our thanks and confidence—thanks for their pains-taking work so far, and confidence that they will carry to more perfect success their well laid plans for augmenting our collection. Our only regret is that we cannot supply them more fully with the means they should have. We ought to expend not less than \$1,000 annually on books. We believe this is demanded by the wants of the public for such works as are likely to be needed. Inquiries are constantly being made here for works and documents which we ought to have in our collection, but which we are prevented from getting by our want of means.

PRINCIPAL WORKS ADDED.

Among the bound volumes added to our collection the past year, we note the following :

American Indians and Antiquities.—Jones' Ojebwa Indians; Absaraka, or Home of the Crows; Brinton's Myths;

Heckwelder's Narrative; Foster's Mound Builders; Baldwin's American Antiquities; Dakota Text Book.

Works on the West and Northwest.—Allen's History of Kentucky; Hatch's War of 1812; Young's History of Wayne Co., Ind.; Rank's History of Lexington, Ky.; History of Seneca Co., O.; Cist's Cincinnati Miscellany; Butler's History of Kentucky; Roberts' Sketches of Detroit; Shea's Early Voyages on the Mississippi; Kip's Early Jesuit Missions; Crawford's Campaign against Sandusky; History of Columbus, O.; Cabinet History of Kentucky; McDonald's Sketches of Pioneers of the West; Col. May's Journey to the Ohio River, 1788-9; Ross' Fur Hunters of the N. W., 2 vols.; Heard's History of the Sioux War; Minneapolis and St. Anthony Directories, 1859-60 and 1873.

General American, State or Local History.—Forty volumes of Revolutionary pamphlets and documents, comprising over 200 separate tracts; Rutland, Vt., Centennial; Capture of Ticonderoga; Preble's History of the American Flag; Penn and Logan Correspondence, 2 vols.; Buffalo and the Senecas, 2 vols.; Ulloa's Noticias Americanas; Willson's American History; Swinton's Condensed History of the U. S.; Neill's Virginia Land Company; Laws, Documents and Journals of Virginia, 1775 to 1870, 84 volumes; Mass. Historical Society Proceedings, 1871-3; Minutes of the Council of New York, 1691, 1775, 2 vols.; Calendar of N. Y. Land Papers; Index to Marriages, New York; Directories and County Histories of Massachusetts Counties, 6 vols.

The Rebellion.—Documents of U. S. Sanitary Commission, 2 vols.; Bulletin of U. S. Sanitary Commission, 2 vols.; Gen. Orders War Department, 1861-3, 2 vols.; Sixth Reunion Army of the Cumberland; Medical and Surgical History of the War, 2 vols.

Public Documents.—Congressional Globe, 7 vols. ; Patent Office Specifications, 16 vols.

Politics and Political Economy.—Townsend's Analysis of Civil Government ; Hon. W. D. Kelley's Speeches and Addresses ; Adams on Slavery ; Baring on Slavery ; Graham's "Who Is to Blame."

Genealogy, Biography and Heraldry.—Gen. Hull's Memoirs ; Gen. Hull's Military and Civil Life ; Life and Speeches of Daniel Webster ; New York Genealogical and Biographical Record ; N. E. Genealogical Register ; DeBrett's Baronetage and Knighthood for 1873 ; DeBrett's Peerage for 1873 ; DeBrett's House of Commons for 1873 ; Antiquities and County Families of Wales, 2 vols. ; Walford's County Families of Great Britain ; Lossing's Lives of the Signers of the Declaration ; Memoir of Edward B. Dalton ; Sibley's Harvard Graduates, 1st vol. ; Life of Gen. Knox.

Not Otherwise Classified.—Historical Record, 1874 ; Notes and Queries, complete set, 46 vols. ; Sabin's Bibliotheca Americana ; Gray's Atlas ; Gibbon's Decline and Fall of Rome, 10 vols. ; Lubbock's Prehistoric Civilization ; Summering in the Wilderness, [Adirondacks] ; Topographical Survey of the Adirondacks ; Smithsonian Contributions, vol. 18 ; Smithsonian Annual Report, 1871 ; Grand Lodge of Iowa, F. A. M., 3 vols.

GIFTS.

Our members and friends have not been unmindful of us the past year, as many and valuable gifts have been received from them. A list of the books and pamphlets contributed, with the names of the donors, are appended to this report. Where all have been so generous, it would appear unnecessary to make special mention, except of those "tried and true" contributors, whose names appear

in our report year after year, in connection with generous gifts. Among these we ought, in justice, to mention particularly, Hon. Alex. Ramsey, Hon. John T. Averill, Rev. J. F. Tuttle, of Crawfordsville, Ind.; Hon. Thos. H. Wynne, Richmond, Va.; Robt. Clarke, Cincinnati; Joel Munsell, Albany, N. Y.; Dr. John J. Dewey, St. Paul; Saml. A. Green, Boston; Dean Dudley, Esq., Boston; as well as the Virginia Historical Society, the New York State Library, the Surgeon General's office,—all of whom have sent valuable contributions.

The generous gift, by the publishers, of nearly one hundred Minnesota journals, for preservation in our library, is more fully acknowledged elsewhere.

CABINET AND PICTURES, ETC.

A number of fine engravings, photographs and prints have been received, adding considerably to our portrait collection. One of these, a splendid large photograph (framed) of the late Horace Greeley, one of the most remarkable men America has produced, was contributed by Col. Wm. Crooks. Charles D. Elfelt, Esq., has donated a painting of Fort Snelling, executed in 1852, by Sergt. Thomas, U. S. A., a self-taught artist, whose views of scenery hereabouts and portraits, we find frequently spoken of in the journals of that period as praiseworthy efforts. In a few weeks, when our rooms are enlarged, we hope to properly display these pictures, and others which have been promised and that we hope soon to receive.

Our cabinet has been enhanced by a few very acceptable curiosities. Wm. Freeman, L. W. Stratton, and Dr. A. I. Comfort have contributed some interesting aboriginal relics, found in this State. Gen. C. C. Andrews, U. S. Minister to Stockholm, has received for us from the Government of Norway, a bronze medal, struck in commemoration of the recent coronation of King Oscar.

Several interesting MSS. also have been received. One is poll-list of the town of St. Paul, containing a roll of the

itizens here over twenty years ago. The other consists of two volumes of the Register, kept by J. W. Prince, at what is known as "Minnesota Headquarters" in New York city—a place always visited by Minnesotians when in Gotham. These volumes (which are the gift of Mr. Prince,) cover a period of ten years, commencing in the spring of 1863, and contain the names of thousands of the citizens of our State, with the dates of their visits there, and must always be regarded with interest.

NEWSPAPERS.

Our collection of newspapers of the State still increases in size and value, and numbers at present 367 bound volumes, many of them rare, and some unique. They are increasing at a rapid rate, and must always constitute one of the most important and valuable features of our library, and be referred to in future by increasing numbers. We now receive and preserve with care, all the papers published in the State, with a few unimportant exceptions. They are the gift (as above referred to) of the publishers, whose generosity, added to our care, is thus providing for the future people of the State, a treasury of materials for history, whose value in the years to come, can scarcely be overestimated.

ROOMS.

The enlargement of the Capitol building the past year, was a very fortunate measure, as providing us with the additional room of which we have been in sore need for several months. In a few weeks, as soon as the apartment adjoining our own is vacated, we will be placed in possession of the same, thus securing a suite of rooms which will amply provide for our wants for some time to come, and until a building for our special use, secure from fire, and ample for the increase of our library for two or three gen-

erations, can be provided for our use, as we confidently expect will ere many years be done.

WORKS FROM THE STATE LIBRARY.

The State Library, soon to be removed from its present quarters to the new wing, is hereafter to be strictly devoted to law books and documents. There are a few miscellaneous works now in the collection, so incomplete and limited in scope, as scarcely to be worth keeping in a library of that kind. It has been determined by the Trustees of the Library to turn a part of them over to the care of this Society. Classified with our own, they will give additional completeness to several of our departments, while, divided as at present, between two collections, their use by the public is attended with some inconvenience.

CONTRIBUTIONS TO MINNESOTA HISTORY.

We have used unceasing efforts to collect from our friends and correspondents, new and hitherto unpublished papers regarding the history of what is now Minnesota, with biographies of its pioneers, and other matter appropriate for publication in our historical collections. Several very interesting and valuable papers have been received from Gen. H. H. Sibley, containing reminiscences of his thirty-nine years' residence in Minnesota; from Mrs. Gen. Van Cleve, whose recollection of Minnesota events extends back to the year 1823; from Dr. Thos. S. Williamson, of St. Peter, unexcelled for intimate acquaintance with the history, customs and language of the Dakota nation; and from other writers, the whole constituting a valuable contribution to our State history. These papers are embraced in an appendix to the present report, and form also the continuation of our series of published collections.

COPIES OF CENSUS RETURNS.

Frequent inquiries have been made at our rooms, to



inspect some of the earlier census lists of Minnesota, especially those of 1850 and 1857. Unfortunately, this Society has no copy of those important records, and indeed, there is no copy of either the census of 1850 or 1857 in the State, so that when any items are needed from those documents, it is necessary to send to Washington and procure them, the expense being considerable. It is respectfully suggested to the Legislature, that if a very small sum, say \$200, were appropriated for the purpose, copies of the above censuses could be procured, and they could then be kept on file among the archives in the Secretary of State's office, or in this Society. The value of these records for historical and other purposes, as showing the early settlers and residents of the various localities of our State, is very great.

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GENERAL CONDITION AND PROGRESS.

The increased use of the facilities afforded by the Society has extended perhaps even more rapidly than the facilities themselves, having doubled at least within a year past. This fact we are gratified to notice, as it shows that our labor has not been vainly bestowed, nor the means placed at our disposal unwisely granted. It encourages us in the belief that the real intention and objects of the Society are now understood, and that it has the ability to carry out those objects.

If it has at any time not fully met the expectations of the public in any way, (and perhaps no human institution has ever been wholly free from some criticism,) it must be remembered that our means and facilities are quite limited. There are many difficulties we labor under, which we would gladly remove, but cannot now do so. Perhaps a larger income would obviate nearly all of them. But for this we must wait until circumstances seem more propitious. In all our measures and operations hitherto, we have used the closest calculations and most rigid economy. Our object has been to do the most we could with our small means, and to lay the least possible burden on the State. We believe

no one can say that we have not been prudent, careful and judicious in all our expenditures, and further, we think the past is a guarantee that we will continue to be so, even with greatly enlarged means. The kind appreciation we have generally received from all classes of our citizens, and the generous aid they have given us in every possible way, is encouraging. To such we need not say, what they already know, that our work is for their benefit. And more largely, perhaps, for the future, than for the present. The work we are doing, in collecting the materials for the history of the State and its people, is one that must be done now, or it can never be done at all, except so imperfectly as to scarcely be worth the doing. We feel willing to abide by the verdict of posterity as to the value of our work, and the manner in which we have performed it.

With the vantage we have already gained, the collection we have accumulated, the firmly established position we have won, not only in our own State, but in the estimation of Societies with whom we correspond, in other parts of the country and in Europe, and our present experience in conducting the work entrusted to us, we are pardonably hopeful that our future success will be in an increasing ratio, and that prosperity will always attend our Society, commensurate with our opportunities and our duties.

APPENDIX.

LIST OF DONORS—1873.

FROM INDIVIDUALS.

	Bound Vols.	Pamphlets.
Col. David Atwood, Madison, Wis.....	1	
Gov. Horace Austin.....		9
Hon. John T. Averill, Congress.....	9	2
Hon. Geo. L. Becker, St. Paul.....		1
Judge John M. Berry, Faribault.....	3	3
Rev. C. D. Bradlee, Boston.....		4
R. C. Burdick, St. Cloud.....	2	
Thomas H. Canfield, Vt.....		2
Josiah B. Chaney, St. Paul.....		7
Judge A. G. Chatfield, Belle Plaine.....	2	
A. J. Cheney, Chicago.....	4	
Robert Clarke, Cincinnati.....	1	1
Hon. Verplanck Colvin, Albany, N. Y.....	1	
Judge Joseph Cox, Cincinnati.....		1
Hon. Gordon E. Cole, Faribault.....		1
J. C. Dalton, M.D., New York.....	1	
Martin Danchay, St. Paul.....	2	
Dr. John J. Dewey, St. Paul.....		32
Rev. James Dobbin, Faribault.....		3
Dean Dudley, Boston.....	6	
Hon. Mark H. Dunnell, Congress.....		2
Daniel S. Durrie, Madison, Wis.....		1
H. K. Frothingham, Charlestown, Mass.....	1	
Dr. Saml. A. Green, Boston.....	1	17
Hon. Wm. G. Hammond, Iowa City.....		1
Hon. I. V. D. Heard, St. Paul.....	1	
Dr. F. B. Hough, Lowville, N. Y.....		4
Sherwood Hough, St. Paul.....		1
H. H. Hurlbut, Racine, Wis.....		1
Johnson & Smith, Minneapolis.....		6
Hon. Wm. D. Kelley, Congress.....	1	1
Wm. H. Kelley, St. Paul.....		72
Hon. Wm. Lochren, Minneapolis.....		1
John A. McAllister, Philadelphia.....		1

Joel Munsell, Albany, N. Y.....	7	35
Rev. E. D. Neill, Minneapolis.....	1	1
Prof. Edward North, Clinton, N. Y.....		4
John Y. Page, St. Paul.....		1
Rev. A. B. Paterson, St. Paul.....	1	
Theo. S. Parvin, Iowa City.....	3	2
J. P. Pond, St. Paul.....		10
Hon. Alex. Ramsey, Congress.....	20	5
Hon. James Shaw, Mt. Carroll, Ill.....	3	12
Hon. A. C. Smith, Litchfield.....		12
Dr. Chas. E. Smith, St. Paul.....		3
Dr. J. V. C. Smith, New York.....		3
Hon. Melville C. Smith, New York.....		3
Samuel Smucker, Newark, O.....		3
W. Hudson Stephens, Lowville, N. Y.....	1	
Rev. J. W. Strong, D.D., Northfield.....		2
L. W. Stratton, Minneapolis.....	1	
Hon. Chas. Sumner, Congress.....		20
Rev. J. F. Tuttle, D.D., Crawfordville, Ind.....		16
Addison Van Name, New Haven, Conn.....		1
O. S. Westcott, Chicago.....	2	
Charles Whittlesey, Cleveland, O.....		3
C. K. Williams, Rutland, Vt.....	2	
J. F. Williams, St. Paul.....	2	
Rev. Thos. S. Williamson, St. Peter.....	1	
Prof. N. H. Winchell, State University.....		3
Hon. Thos. H. Wynne, Richmond, Va.....	2	3

FROM SOCIETIES, INSTITUTIONS, ETC.

Surrey Archæological Society, England.....		1
Congr. Inter. Anth. and Arch., Brussels.....		1
Historical Society of Pa.....	1	
American Antiquarian Society.....		1
Board of Public Charity, Pennsylvania.....	1	
Cornell University, N. Y.....		6
New Bedford, Mass., Public Library.....		1
Royal Danish Antiquarian Society.....		2
Royal Historical and Antiquarian Society, Ireland..		1
Astor Library, N. Y.....		2
U. S. Naval Observatory.....	3	2
Mass. State Board of Health.....		1
Virginia Historical Society.....	75	9
Smithsonian Institution.....	2	
Trinity College, Hartford, Conn.....		8
Rhode Island, Historical Society.....		1
Tribune Printing Co., Minneapolis.....	1	
Mass. Historical Society.....	1	
Kongelige Norske Universitet, Christiana.....		15
Peabody Museum, Cambridge, Mass.....		1
Public Library, Cincinnati, O.....		1
Public Library, Chicago.....		1
Surgeon General's Office, U. S. A.....	2	

Mercantile Library Association, New York.....		1
Bureau of Education, Washington, D. C.....		3
New York State Library.....	5	4
Ohio Historical and Philosophical Society.....	1	
Swedish Bureau of Statistics.....		20
Wool Manufacturer's Association, Boston.....		4
Royal Society of Denmark.....		1
Essex Institute, Salem, Mass.....		3
Wisconsin Historical Society.....	2	
Commissioner of Patents, Washington.....	16	

OBJECTS OF COLLECTION DESIRED BY THE SOCIETY.

Books and Pamphlets on American History, Biography and Genealogy, particularly those relating to the West; Works on our Indian Tribes, and American Archaeology and Ethnology; Statistical and Scientific Publications of States or Societies; Books or pamphlets relating to the Great Rebellion; privately printed works; Newspapers; Maps and Charts; Engravings; Autographs; Coins; Antiquities; and Encyclopedias, Dictionaries and Bibliographical works of every kind. Entire sets of works are especially solicited, or collections of books on any subject, but single volumes, or pamphlets even, will be gratefully received. Especially do we desire

EVERYTHING RELATING TO OUR OWN STATE:

1. Travels and Explorations; City Directories; Copies of the earlier Laws and Journals of our Legislature; Ordinances of Cities; and in short, every book, on any subject, printed in the State or elsewhere relating to it.
2. Pamphlets of all kinds; Catalogues of Minnesota Colleges and other Institutions of Learning; Annual Reports of Societies; Sermons and Addresses delivered in this State; Minutes of Church Conventions, Synods, or other ecclesiastical Bodies of Minnesota; Political Addresses; Railroad and Board of Trade Reports; Pamphlets relating to this State.
3. Files of Minnesota Newspapers and Magazines, especially complete volumes of past years, or single numbers even. Publishers are earnestly requested to contribute their publications regularly, all of which will be carefully preserved and bound.
4. Materials for Minnesota History; Old Letters, Journals and Manuscript Narratives of the Pioneers of Minnesota; Original Papers on the Early History and Settlement of the Territory; Adventures and Conflicts during the Indian war or the late Rebellion; Biographies of the Pioneers of every County, either living or deceased, together with their portraits and autographs; a sketch of the settlement of every town and village in the State, with names of the first settlers. We solicit articles on every subject connected with Minnesota history.
5. Maps of Town Sites or Counties, of any date; Views and Engravings of buildings or historic places; Drawings or Photographs of Scenery; Paintings; Portraits, &c., connected with Minnesota history.
6. Curiosities of all kinds for our Museum; Coins; Medals; Paintings; Portraits; Engravings; Statues; War Relics; Autograph Letters of distinguished persons, etc.
7. Facts illustrative of our Indian Tribes; Their History, Characteristics, Religion, &c.. Sketches of their prominent Chiefs, Orators, and Warriors, together with contributions of Indian Weapons, Costumes, Ornaments, Curiosities and Implements. Also Stone Axes, Spears, Arrow Heads, Pottery, or other relics of the pre-historic races.

In brief, *everything* that, by the most liberal construction, can illustrate the History of Minnesota; its early settlement; its progress or present condition, which will be of value or interest to succeeding generations.

Communications or gifts may be addressed to the Secretary of the Society, at St. Paul.

ANNUAL REPORT

OF THE

MINNESOTA

HISTORICAL SOCIETY

TO THE LEGISLATURE OF MINNESOTA,

FOR THE YEAR 1874.



SAINT PAUL:

PIONEER COMPANY PRINT.

1875.

OFFICERS OF THE SOCIETY.

PRESIDENT,

ROBERT ORMSBY SWEENEY.

VICE PRESIDENTS.

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2. DR. BREWER MATTOCKS,
3. J. B. CHANEY.

SECRETARY AND TREASURER.

J. FLETCHER WILLIAMS.

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Judge A. Goodrich,	Dr. John H. Murphy,
Geo. A. Hamilton,	Rev. E. D. Neill,
Alfred J. Hill,	James P. Pond,
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Gen. S. P. Jennison,	Robt. O. Sweeney,
Hon. Sherwood Hough,	Gen. H. H. Sibley,
Hon. John D. Ludden,	J. F. Williams.
Ex-Gov. W. R. Marshall,	

REPORT OF THE EXECUTIVE COUNCIL.

The close of the first quarter century of the Society's existence, finds it in prosperous circumstances, and with satisfactory means of usefulness for the fulfillment of its objects. Twenty-five years ago it had scarcely an existence beyond a name, having been incorporated but a few weeks before, and but just organized under its charter, dated Oct. 20th, 1849. It was without means or resources, with no membership except the few corporators, without a library or any place to keep one, or in which to hold its meetings, and with an imperfect idea of the work devolving upon it. The population of the Territory was but a few hundred, and a considerable proportion of these could not read English. There was no wealth, and but little of what is termed culture, among the people, who poor and struggling with hard fortune in a new country, had but little time to devote to literature, or science and history, or to anything, in fact, that did not immediately concern the bread-and-butter question.

Starting on its career weighted with such adverse influences, it will readily be seen that in its earlier years its history was a record of progress made under discouraging circumstances. Oftentimes its organization was all but abandoned. Sometimes for months it made no progress, nor accomplished anything. It was not until about 1865 that it secured means to properly carry on its work, and apartments suitable to its use. Since that time dates the real success of the Society, and it has steadily progressed to its present very successful condition.

THE LIBRARY.

During the year 1874 we received the following accessions to our Library: Bound volumes, 768; pamphlets, 642; photographs, 25; manuscripts, 4; files of papers, 34; engravings, 1; curiosities, 1; maps, 12. Total, 1,487.

The sources from which the bound volumes were received are as follows: By purchase, 539; binding, 35; by gift and exchange, 194. Of the pamphlets, 485 were gifts, 157 purchased.

The total number of volumes in the Library at present are: Bound, 6,411; pamphlets, 9,372; total, 15,783.

PURCHASES OF BOOKS.

Our purchases of books this year have been somewhat larger than usual, but have been made very successfully as far as the best advantage of the library is concerned. In all, \$1,100 have been expended, purchasing 539 bound and 157 unbound volumes. Excluding the latter, together with subscriptions to magazines, maps, &c., gives an average of \$2 per volume for each bound book. The average of 1872 was \$2.10, and of 1873, \$2.52. Considering the usual high price, and the rarity of a large proportion of the works we have purchased, such as Dictionaries, Encyclopedias, and works long out of print—all of them being in strong and handsome binding, and of the best editions, any one acquainted with books will see that our purchases have been made with a very successful eye to economy, and at a less price than, in general, the same works could have been procured by any private purchaser. We have this year adopted the plan of importing direct, and in our own name, thus saving the profits, costs and expenses hitherto incurred in purchasing through importers.

In addition to a considerable number of works on the history and biography of the Northwest, and of America in general, we have added some standard works on European history, both ancient and modern, that seemed necessary to give a completeness to our Library, and facilities for

readers to study epochs of history that had not been covered by any works hitherto in our Library. Our collection on history in general is now quite complete, and composed of the best standard works. Of course American history is our specialty, particularly of the West, and our purchases are in the main directed to that department. Our State, local, and general United States histories, and of particular periods of the same, are becoming quite complete. These are works which are so generally published by subscription, in small editions, and not kept for sale by the trade, they can only be picked up by a vigilant watch of booksellers' catalogues, second-hand dealers' stocks, auction sales, and through the exertions of agents who make book hunting a business. Our accumulations cannot, under such circumstances, be rapid, and we can only complete our collection by persistent effort and watchful care, extended through a term of years.

THE DRAKE LIBRARY.

We say *only* by such a method, but this is necessary simply on account of our limited revenue. If the State should see fit, it could secure by a somewhat larger outlay, "once for all," a complete library, without waiting for the slow accumulations of years, as we are now doing. Our Society is now offered an opportunity of this nature, which, if the means could be secured, we ought to accept. Samuel G. Drake, the eminent antiquarian and biblioplist, of Boston, offers us the whole of his remarkable collection relating to American history, biography, ethnology, geography, &c., comprising some 10,000 bound volumes, about 50,000 pamphlets, numerous maps, engravings, manuscripts, &c., at a price to be agreed on by impartial referees. Mr. Drake, with better opportunities than almost any one else in this country has enjoyed, and with his rare and unsurpassed experience and skill, has been many years collecting this library, which, in completeness, variety, and the rarity and value of most of the works, probably surpasses any private library in the United

States, which is now, or is likely ever to be for sale entire. Mr. Drake's declining years and feeble health alone induces him to part with this choice collection. He has affixed no particular value to it, but thinks it may, on appraisal, reach \$50,000. It may, however, be assessed as low as \$35,000. Even at the former figure, it is considered, by competent judges, to be a prize worth contending for. Mr. Drake is willing to take the amount, whatever it may be, in five annual payments, with interest. Our Librarian, whose experience in bibliographical matters can, we think, be relied on, carefully examined the library the past season, and pronounces it richer and more complete than Mr. Drake's advertisement claimed for it. Any western State that secures it will be fortunate. It would have been sold long since to one of the eastern States, only for the fact that they all possess libraries covering largely the same ground. For a State, situated as ours is, having no public library of much completeness, it would be eminently proper—nay, even on selfish grounds, a good speculation, to purchase such a library. Added to our 15,000 volumes and documents, it would give our State at once one of the largest and most valuable libraries in the country—certainly the largest, one only excepted, in the West, or that the West will probably boast of in many years. In a very brief time, comparatively, from the increasing rarity and value of such works, it will double in value, while to collect the same works now, even if they could all be had, which is quite impossible, would cost far more than the aggregate sum now asked by Mr. Drake for his collection.

We are therefore of the opinion that it would be an advantage to the State to accept Mr. Drake's offer.

ISSUE OF COLLECTIONS.

An appendix to our Annual Report of 1873, consisting of several interesting and valuable papers relating to the history and biography of Minnesota, was printed separately by order of the Legislature of 1874, and distributed as part 2, volume 3, of our Collections. It was very favor-

ably received, and has been of great service to us in introducing the Society to notice abroad, and in securing for us exchanges, &c. The work has also received very flattering compliments from the press, both of our State and eastern cities. The committee on publication in their preface very justly remark:

"The favor with which Part I was received leads us to conclude that the style of its contents was happily chosen, and that a miscellany of biography, history, reminiscences and incidents of our pioneer days is perhaps as appropriate a shape as we could adopt. In contents so varied, every one studying our history can find something to choose from to aid him in his researches."

We are accumulating manuscript for the publication of another part of about the same size, and hope to issue the same in a few months. In this connection we may be permitted to ask that gentlemen who have promised to prepare papers on different subjects, will hand them in as soon as possible.

ROOMS.

The State Library having been removed in March to the new wing of the Capitol, the apartment adjoining our own was vacated, and the two were then connected by passages, almost doubling the space hitherto occupied by us. A portion of this was subsequently rendered useless by the ventilating and heating apparatus constructed for the Senate chamber, but the net gain in room was still very valuable to us, and badly needed. Our funds have been insufficient, however, to properly furnish it.

The Legislature of 1874 having made an appropriation to build a fire proof vault for the Secretary of State's office, added to it a small sum to finish and equip the lower story of the same for our use, thus utilizing the area which would otherwise have been lost, and securing for us a spacious and thoroughly fire-proof vault, something we have often felt the need of, to preserve from loss or the possibility of destruction by fire, of a number of rare documents, books,

manuscripts, files of papers, &c., of which there are no other copies.

NEWSPAPERS.

Our department of newspapers increases gratifyingly. We have now 542 bound volumes, together with about 100 unbound volumes or files, some of the latter not quite perfect. The work of preparing and completing them has progressed steadily the past year.

We again gratefully acknowledge the gift, by the publishers, of over 90 papers in this State, and Wisconsin and Dakota, of regular files of their journals. These are carefully preserved, bound and arranged, and are rapidly forming a department of Minnesota journalism that the contributors may well be proud of, and which, while reflecting credit on their liberality, we trust may be of pecuniary advantage to them all, as it already has in a few cases.

During the year we secured by purchase and exchange or gift, some rare and valuable volumes of papers. One of them is the *London Gazette*, 13 volumes, folio, from 1665 to 1713, and the *London Chronicle*, 1757 to 1762, 12 volumes, quarto. These were procured at a very low price, and are of great value and interest historically, as well as valuable specimens of early journalism. A quite complete set of the *Columbian Centinel*, from 1786 to 1824, was received from Harvard University Library in exchange, and 9 volumes of bound newspapers, completing gaps in sets of our papers, was secured in exchange from the Massachusetts Historical Society. With some small breaks, we now have files of newspapers for over two centuries back.

Mr. Hamilton, of our Executive Council, also contributes several volumes of Saint Paul papers (valuable for exchanges), and files have also been received from Messrs. R. O. Sweeny, M. J. Clum, Wm. H. Kelley, Judge J. M. Berry, and others.

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CONCLUSION.

In concluding this report, we must express our gratification at the prosperous condition of the Society generally. As we observed in the opening paragraph of this report, it is now the oldest of our State institutions, and we feel a just pride in having it at the same time the best managed and one of the most useful.

We think that it is now established on a very secure and prosperous basis, and with as ample facilities for carrying on its work as we could hope for at this stage of the State's development. The confidence shown in it by our citizens, and the good will manifested by generous gifts and encouraging words, are truly gratifying. Our constant endeavor will be, as heretofore, to advance in greater usefulness and development, and that it will become, in an increasing measure, an honor to the State, a benefit to its people, and an evidence of the intelligence, culture and liberality of her citizens.

OBJECTS OF COLLECTION DESIRED BY THE SOCIETY.

Books and Pamphlets on American History, Biography and Genealogy, particularly those relating to the West; Works on our Indian Tribes, and American Archaeology and Ethnology; Statistical and Scientific Publications of States or Societies; Books or Pamphlets relating to the Great Rebellion; privately printed works; Newspapers; Maps and Charts; Engravings; Autographs; Coins; Antiquities; and Encyclopedias, Dictionaries and Bibliographical works of every kind. Entire sets of works are especially solicited, or collections of books on any subject, but single volumes, or pamphlets even, will be gratefully received. Especially do we desire

EVERYTHING RELATING TO OUR OWN STATE.

1. Travels and Explorations; City Directories; Copies of the earlier Laws and Journals of our Legislature; Ordinances of Cities; and in short, every book, on any subject, printed in the State or elsewhere, relating to it.
2. Pamphlets of all kinds; Catalogues of Minnesota Colleges and other Institutions of Learning; Annual Reports of Societies; Sermons and Addresses delivered in the State; Minutes of Church Conventions, Synods, or other Ecclesiastical Bodies of Minnesota; Political Addresses; Railroad and Board of Trade Reports; Pamphlets relating to this State.
3. Files of Minnesota Newspapers and Magazines, especially complete volumes of past years, or single numbers even. Publishers are earnestly requested to contribute their publications regularly, all of which will be carefully preserved and bound.
4. Materials for Minnesota History; Old Letters, Journals and Manuscript Narratives of the Pioneers of Minnesota; Original Papers on the Early History and Settlement of the Territory; Adventures and Conflicts during the Indian War or the late Rebellion; Biographies of the Pioneers of every County, either living or deceased, together with their portraits and autographs; a sketch of the settlement of every town and village in the State, with names of the first settlers. We solicit articles on every subject connected with Minnesota history.
5. Maps of Town Sites or Counties, of any date; Views and Engravings of buildings or historic places; Drawings or Photographs of Scenery; Paintings; Portraits, &c. connected with Minnesota history.
6. Curiosities of all kinds for our Museum; Coins; Medals; Paintings; Portraits; Engravings; Statues; War Relics; Autograph Letters of distinguished persons, &c.
7. Facts illustrative of our Indian Tribes; Their History, Characteristics, Religion, &c., Sketches of their prominent Chiefs, Orators, and Warriors, together with contributions of Indian Weapons, Costumes, Ornaments, Curiosities and Implements. Also Stone Axes, Spears, Arrow Heads, Pottery, or other relics of the pre-historic races.

In brief, *everything* that, by the most liberal construction, can illustrate the history of Minnesota; its early settlement; its progress or present condition, which will be of value or interest to succeeding generations.

Communications or gifts may be addressed to the Secretary of the Society, at St. Paul.

ANNUAL REPORT

OF THE

MINNESOTA HISTORICAL SOCIETY,

TO THE

LEGISLATURE OF MINNESOTA,

FOR THE YEAR 1875.

SAINT PAUL,
THE PIONEER-PRESS COMPANY.
1876.

OFFICERS OF THE SOCIETY.

PRESIDENT,

GEN. HENRY H. SIBLEY.

VICE PRESIDENTS,

1. HON. GEO. L. BECKER,
2. HON. ALEX. RAMSEY,
3. HON. JOHN H. STEVENS.

SECRETARY.

J. FLETCHER WILLIAMS.

TREASURER.

HENRY P. UPHAM.

MEMBERS OF EXECUTIVE COUNCIL.

Ex-Officio.

His Excellency, John S. Pillsbury, Governor.
Hon. J. B. Wakefield, Lieutenant Governor.
Hon. John S. Irgens, Secretary of State.
Hon. Orlen P. Whitcomb, Auditor of State.
Hon. William Pfaender, Treasurer of State.
Hon. George P. Wilson, Attorney General.

Elective.

Hon. John M. Berry,
Hon. Geo. L. Becker,
Capt. Russell Blakeley,
J. B. Chaney, Esq.,
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George A. Hamilton, Esq.,
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James J. Hill, Esq.,
Rt. Rev. John Ireland, D. D.
Gen. R. W. Johnson,
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Charles E. Mayo, Esq.,
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Judge R. R. Nelson,
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L. E. Reed, Esq.,
Hon. H. M. Rice,
Hon. D. A. Robertson,
Gen. John B. Sanborn,
Hon. H. H. Sibley,
Hon. John H. Stevens,
R. O. Sweeny, Esq.,
Henry P. Upham, Esq.,
J. F. Williams,
Charles A. Zimmerman, Esq.

REPORT OF THE EXECUTIVE COUNCIL.

In presenting a report of the operations and work of the Society for the year 1875, the Executive Council feel largely encouraged at its success during that period, notwithstanding the many drawbacks which have tended to retard our rapid development, principally resulting from the financial condition of the State. Nevertheless our plans for its progress and success have been well rewarded by its steady growth and enlarged usefulness during that period. While this growth has not been rapid, nor unusual, a condition we could scarcely expect at the present time, it has been marked by promising features, which give the most ample encouragement to its managers.

THE LIBRARY.

The accessions to the library the past year have been, bound books, 168; pamphlets, 378; curiosities and relics, 7; pictures (engravings and photographs) 12; maps, 13; manuscripts, 1; files or volumes of papers, 2. The sources from which the bound volumes were received, were—by purchase, 23; by binding, 30; by exchange, 23; by gift, 92.

The total number of bound volumes now in the library is 6,579; pamphlets and unbound volumes, 9,750; total, 16,329.

As our purchases during the year 1874 were somewhat extensive, and before the payments for the same were fully completed, trenched to some degree on the fund appropriated for our use the present year, we did not purchase, during 1875, as much as we would otherwise have done. Then, too, the finances of the State were somewhat heavily strained by unexpected expenses and outlays resulting from the memorable "grasshopper invasion" the preceding year, and it was our wish to add as little as possible to the expenditures of the State government for the year 1875. We therefore confined

ourselves to the bare running expenses of the society as closely as possible, or our increase of Library would have been much larger than it is. Nevertheless, we have added a considerable number of valuable publications to our shelves the past year. Mere numbers has never, at any time, been our aim. Ten works of value and rarity might not represent much space on our shelves, nor add many figures to our enumeration, yet outweigh in value and worth whole alcoves of ephemeral and cheap volumes, with which the market is always crowded. Our Librarian and Library Committee keep up a vigilant watch among the catalogues of dealers in America and England, and are rewarded by frequently securing some "gem" of almost precious rarity, needed to complete our collection of books on the northwest, and sometimes at a surprisingly low price.

But in general these scarce books are high-priced, and the bargains referred to are few and far between. There are now so many public libraries in the field, with large means at command, and private buyers with apparently bottomless purses, that what books of true value and rarity our State may purchase, cannot be had *cheaply*, as the word is generally understood. Nor, with the small means at our disposal, can our accumulations be rapid. It is only by patient, persistent, watchful effort, extended through years, that we will secure the realization of our wishes, and make our library such an one as the state should possess.

GIFTS, EXCHANGES, ETC.

The main source of increase has been, and perhaps until our means are more extensive, must continue to be, donations. The donors to our collection have been unceasingly generous, and mindful of our wants. Nor are these all our own citizens. The latter, of course, have given us generous gifts, and feel a growing pride in the Society and the work it is designed to accomplish. But a remarkable proportion of the contributors are gentlemen residing in the East, and some in Europe, who feel a general interest in institutions of this nature, and a wish to aid them. From this class of persons (and our acquaintance with them is continually growing) comes a very large proportion of our library increase. It only illustrates a universal law which appears to govern institutions of this kind. Some years ago, when our Society was so feeble as to be little more than an experiment, it was remarked in one of our annual reports, that if we could once but get successfully started, and inspire confidence in our management and future success we should find plenty of generous friends to help us, and the little nucleus of

a library would soon swell into something valuable and extensive, by the gifts of those, who, following an oft illustrated sentiment of our nature, are willing to aid those who are successful and deserving. The unbroken and constantly increasing stream of gifts pouring into us from widely varied and ever multiplying sources, proves this law.

Of course we have been years in working up and securing this list of correspondents and contributors, but it is a fixed and reliable element of our prosperity. Much of it may be classed under the head of "exchanges." Ten years ago we had scarcely an institution or society on our exchange list. Now there are 112 societies and libraries similar to our own, with which we regularly exchange publications. Nineteen of these are in Europe. Many of these institutions publish works of great value and expensiveness. There are also a number of bureaus, commissions, departments and institutions, State and national, which regularly supply us with their publications. Most of these works, valuable and costly, are not sold by the trade, and can be had only by exchange and gift.

PUBLICATIONS.

In exchange for these gifts, we have not always been able to make an adequate return, but our own publications, and such State documents as we are by law entitled to, have been used as fully as possible for that purpose. During the past two years we have not been able to continue the issue of our publications, the third volume of which is still incomplete.

Last summer, however, Mr. J. F. Williams, a resident of Saint Paul, who had spent his leisure time for several years in collecting and writing up a history of the city and county, offered it to the Society, on condition that it should be published in good style, the Society to have the copyright and all profits which might result therefrom. As the Society did not have the means requisite to issue the work, some of its members advanced the same, with the understanding that they should be repaid out of the proceeds of the sale of the work. The book has been printed, and will be ready for publication about the last week in January. There is no doubt but that the proceeds of its sale will repay the cost of the printing, and leave some funds in the Treasury of the Society, besides furnishing a sufficient number of copies to use for the exchanges before noted.

OUR NEWSPAPER COLLECTION.

If one department more than another receives the loving care of

our Librarian, it must be that of collecting Minnesota newspapers. Our bound series of State journals are thus rapidly becoming one of the most valuable portions of our library. The importance of this department of our work cannot be over-estimated, and the time will soon come when the people of this State will feel thankful that the now too lightly valued chronicles of the passing day were collected and preserved by some one knowing their value after the lapse of a few years. Indeed, we are now almost daily gratified that our care in collecting and preserving these memorials of the times has been of the greatest value to some of our citizens, who have consulted them for legal, statistical or historical data.

As *materials* for *history*, newspapers are unsurpassed, and their value cannot be over-estimated. Chronicling current events and topics, they form almost the sole record of thousands of facts and occurrences that are not, and *can* not, be preserved in any other way. What else so shows the very "form and pressure of the times?" How can the historians of the future write the story of our recent great civil conflict, for instance, without patient study of the newspaper collections in our public libraries? How can the historians of our own State record its wonderful career without these very materials we are so strenuously endeavoring to collect? Every step of our State's progress from the organization of the Territory, its settlement and development from a wilderness into a prosperous commonwealth—its varied political history—the saddening story of its Indian war, and the glorious record of its share in the war for the Union, are all to be found mainly in the newspapers which we are so diligently collecting and preserving.

They are even now referred to oftener than any other department of our Library, and have, in many instances, proved of the very highest value and use to parties procuring legal evidence. Indeed, newspaper files are oftener taken into court than any other class of documents. The varied nature of their contents will explain this. Their advertisements alone are a record of unrivalled value and interest. The titles to property, and the descent of estates, very frequently depend on advertisements of marriages and deaths, business partnerships, probate notices and mortgage foreclosures, and other legal and business advertisements in our newspapers. There is scarcely an issue of an obscure country paper which does not contain, among its advertisements, or among its local items, information that years hence may effect the property, or perhaps the reputation, and even the liberty of some citizens. Such instances occur very frequently, as every newspaper publisher knows.

On several occasions, lawyers have made long journeys from the interior of the State, to find, in our newspaper collection, proof worth to them almost the weight in gold of the file containing it. And this must occur more frequently, in the future, as the value of property increases, and titles are more often contested.

A gentleman from one of our largest counties, enquiring at our rooms not long ago for a file of an early Territorial journal, (of which we had but an imperfect set), stated that if a *complete* file were in existence, it would be worth thousands of dollars to the people of that county, in settling titles to property alone. Of very many of these papers we have the only known files. And so valuable—so utterly irreplaceable, in fact, by any sum of money, has our whole collection become, it makes us keenly solicitous for their safety, and is the principal argument for the erection of a fire-proof building for our use—a depository, the want of which is becoming pressing and urgent. The destruction of our 550 volumes of newspapers would be a loss to the State *now* incalculable—to be more and more keenly deplored as years roll on.

PATENT OFFICE SPECIFICATIONS.

Some months ago, the Commissioner of Patents designated this Library as one of the depositories for the official copies of all specifications and drawings of Patents. The series have been regularly received since that time, and now number 94 volumes. We have, also, all the previous issues since 1844, and five volumes of the Patent Office Gazette. They constitute a series of great value to the inventor and mechanic, and are largely used, being the only set in the State. We have, also, secured, (by purchase), as a necessary adjunct to this collection, some valuable scientific works, dictionaries of science, mechanics and technical works, so that any questions arising in the use of the patent specifications can be made plain.

PHOTOGRAPHY AS AN AID TO HISTORY.

The collection of photographs of our scenery in its natural state, before it was, or will be, marred by the hand of man—of our ever changing and rapidly growing towns and cities—of our scenes and localities of historical interest and pride—of our early settlers and prominent pioneers and public men—of our Indian inhabitants, scarce noticed by our present generation, but destined to possess a wondrous interest to those who succeed us when that strange people

have passed away—all these have been among our main objects. Photography is one of the most valuable aids in preserving history which we have. Recognising this fact, last winter the Society appointed Charles A. Zimmerman, of St. Paul, its photographer—an honorary appointment, but devolving on him the duty of securing for this Society whatever views of persons or places would come within our scope. Mr. Zimmerman has very actively engaged in that work, and has secured and presented to the Society some handsomely framed scenes and portraits of historical value. Among them are enlarged copies from daguerrotypes of street scenes in St. Paul at a very early day, when a cluster of log cabins occupied the spot on which stand now some of the finest business blocks in the State. It is our wish to secure similar views of every town in the State, taken at different periods, showing its growth. The valuable series of Legislative groups taken annually since 1857, by Mr. Zimmerman, should also be in possession of this Society, but our means are scarcely sufficient to enable us to secure them now, although offered largely below their value.

ROOMS, INSURANCE, ETC.

The unfitness of the apartments now occupied by the Society, and their crowded condition, has been mentioned in previous reports. In calling attention to this again, it is only to say that this condition of things is more than ever urgently demanding a suitable provision for our library. It is too valuable to risk in such unsafe quarters longer than absolute necessity compels. We have an insurance on it of \$5,000, but this is not one-fifth of its value. Besides, its 550 bound volumes of newspapers, and 200 unbound volumes, could not be replaced by money. Their loss would be deplorable. A safe fire-proof building is the great necessity of the Society now, and one to which we again respectfully call the attention of its friends.

With this accomplished, there would be little difficulty in securing all the means necessary for our work. Endowments would begin to appear—which are withheld now for a very good reason, but are promised when that is accomplished. The generosity of our citizens, never appealed to in vain, would soon amply establish and sustain the Society, commensurate with all needs, could we once safely gather our biblical treasures in such safe, secure, permanent quarters.

DEATHS OF TWO PROMINENT MEMBERS.

During the past year, several of the most active members and supporters of the Society have been removed by death—Judge A. G. Chatfield, of Belle Plaine; B. F. Hoyt, and Hon. Parker Paine, of Saint Paul; Maj. W. H. Forbes, one of the corporate members of the Society; and more recently Dr. S. Y. McMasters and Rev. John Mattocks, of the Executive Council. The deaths of these two well-known and able clergymen, both of whom had labored for many years for the success and welfare of the Society, was a severe loss to it and to the State, and their places will be difficult to fill.

CONCLUSION.

The work devolving upon this Society is of a three-fold nature, and may be briefly summarised in the *collecting*, *preserving* and *publishing* of materials for the History of Minnesota.

1. *Collecting.* The principal labor involved is in the collection of this material, which includes everything illustrating the history of the State; its early settlement, and of every portion of it; memoirs of its pioneers, accounts of their adventures and incidents; manuscript and printed matter relating to it; portraits and views; newspapers, maps, etc. This material, (or most of it,) can only be secured by keeping constant pace with the events indicated. To delay their collection a few years would be equivalent to losing them altogether, as older States have discovered, compelling them, ultimately to expend large sums to imperfectly perform what we are now doing, perfectly and completely, with comparatively small expense.

2. *Preservation:* The care and arrangement of the material mentioned, and its compilation in a form convenient and accessible; also, the management of such a library of reference as can be secured by the special means in use by the Society, to include every thing needed for those studying its history, statistics, geography, laws and institutions, its current journalistic literature, and at the same time a general library of such works and documents as are not generally found in other libraries, and which can be gathered only by such means.

3. *Publication:* This is perhaps the least valuable of the three divisions of our work, as the constant use of the Library by persons

preparing articles, reports, statistics, and works for publication, accomplishes this portion of the design to a considerable extent, by disseminating the information collected, without outlay on our part.

Such is a brief synopsis of our plan, which may be interesting to those who have not hitherto had an opportunity of becoming acquainted with the designs of our institution. We feel very much gratified, as we look back over the past progress of the Society, at our success, despite the insufficient means we have had. It would be doing an injustice to many liberal and active friends and co-laborers of the Society, if we did not give the credit of most of this success to them. *Means* alone will do much, but means *with* such energy and devotion, will enable us to succeed as fully in our work as the most sanguine could hope.

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ST. PAUL:
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FOR THE YEAR 1876.



ST. PAUL:

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1877.

REPORT OF THE EXECUTIVE COUNCIL.

The continued success and prosperity of the society during the past year, in all departments of its work, is one of the prominent features of the present report, which we present with much satisfaction. We feel, as we look back on our success, and contrast the condition of the society now with what it was a brief period ago—for example, at the close of the war, when it was reorganized, with enlarged means—that the time of *experiment* has passed, and we are now securely established and in a condition to carry out all our objects and intentions. Like other of our state institutions, we have struggled up from a small beginning, sharing the reverses and prosperity of the commonwealth alike, until we have builded on a secure foundation.

THE LIBRARY.

During the year 1876 we received the following accessions to our library and cabinet: Bound volumes, 424; pamphlets, 262; photographs and engravings, 18; MSS., 2; files of papers, 4; curiosities, 2; maps, 5. Total, 717 objects.

The sources from which the bound volumes were received, are as follows: by purchase, 251; binding, 63; gift and exchange, 110. Of the pamphlets, all, with exceptions too few to notice, were gifts and exchanges.

The total number of volumes in the library (Dec. 1) are: bound, 7,003; pamphlets, or unbound, 10,012. Total, 17,015 publications.

PURCHASES.

While our purchases the past year have not been large, we have added a number of very important and valuable works to our collection. Among the more prominent additions are the following:

History—Eastern States.

- History of Annapolis, Md. 8vo. Baltimore, 1872.....O. M. Taylor.
 History of Maryland. 12mo. Baltimore, 1852.....J. McSherry.
 The Chronicles of Baltimore. 8vo. Baltimore, 1874.....J. T. Scharf.
 Annals of Annapolis. 12mo. Baltimore, 1841.....D. Ridgely.
 Connecticut Historical Collections. 8vo. New Haven, 1836...J. W. Barber.
 History of Norwich, Conn. 8vo. 1866.....F. M. Caulkins.
 Annals and Family Records of Winchester, Conn. 8vo.
 Hartford, 1873.....John Boyd.
 History of Windham Co., Conn. 8vo. Worcester, Mass, 1874..E. D. Larned.
 Connecticut Historical Collections. 8vo. New Haven, 1836..J. W. Barber.
 Extracts from the Records of Colchester, Conn., Hartford,
 1864.....C. M. Taintor.
 History of Winchendon, Mass., 8vo. Winchendon, 1863...A. P. Marvin.
 History of Haverhill, Mass. 8vo. Haverhill, 1861.....G. W. Chase.
 History of Barnstead, Mass. 8vo. Lowell, 1872.....J. P. Jewett.
 History of the Town of Plymouth, Mass. 12mo. Boston, 1835..Jas. Thacher.
 History and Antiquities of New England. 8vo. Worcester,
 1841.....J. W. Barber.
 History of Nantucket. 12 mo. Boston, 1835Obad Macy.
 History of Western Massachusetts: 2 vols. 12mo. Spring-
 field, 1855.....J. G. Holland.
 History of Dedham, Mass. 8vo. Boston, 1827.....E. Worthington.
 Historical Collections of Massachusetts. 8vo. Worcester,
 1844.....J. W. Barber.
 History of Rhode Island and Newport. 8vo. N. Y., 1853.Rev. E. Peterson.
 Report upon the Census of Rhode Island. 8vo. Providence,
 1867.....Edwin M. Snow.
 The Dorr Rebellion in Rhode Island. 8vo. Washington, 1845....E. Burke.
 Centennial Celebration, History of Reading, Vt., &c. 8vo.
 Bellows Falls.....G. A. Davis.
 Founders of New England, &c. 4to. Boston, 1860.....S. G. Drake.
 History of New Hampshire, up to 1830. 8vo. Manchester,
 1875.....E. D. Sanborn.
 History of Kirkland, New York. 8vo. New York, 1874....A. D. Gridley.
 History of the State of New York; 2 vols. 8vo. N. Y., 1871.J. R. Brodhead.
 History of Queensbury, N. Y. 8vo. Albany, 1874.....A. W. Holden.
 History of New York City. 8vo. New York, 1872.....Wm. L. Stone.
 Reminiscences of Saratoga and Ballston. 8vo. N. Y., 1875.Wm. L. Stone.
 A Condensed History of Cooperstown. 12mo. Albany, 1862.S. T. Livermore.
 Annals of Luzerne Co., Pa. 8vo. Philadelphia, 1860.....Stewart Pearce.
 Authentic History of Lancaster, Pa. 8vo. Lancaster, 1869.J. I. Mombert.

History—Western and Southern States.

- Sketches of Western Adventure. 8vo. Covington, Ky., 1872.J. A. McClung.
 Alton [Ill.] Trials. 12mo. New York, 1838.....W. S. Lincoln.

The History of the State of Ohio. 8vo. Detroit, 1875...John S. C. Abbott.
Ohio Annals, Historic Events, &c. 8vo. Dayton, 1876. ...C. H. Mitchener.
The Annals of Kansas. 8vo. Topeka, 1875....D. W. Wilder.
Nebraska; Its Advantages and Resources. 8vo. N. Y., 1875.E. A. Curley.
The Texas Scrap Book. 8vo. New York, 1875.....D. W. C. Baker.
Alabama; Her History, Resources, War Record, &c. 8vo.

Montgomery, 1872.....W. Brewer.
Historical Collections of Georgia. 8vo. New York, 1855.....Geo. White.
Sketches and Recollections of Lynchburg, Va. 12mo. Richmond, 1858.
History of Oregon, 1792-1849. 8vo. Portland, 1870....W. H. Gray.
recollections of the Early Settlement of Carroll Co., Ind. 8vo.

Cincinnati, O., 1872.....J. H. Stewart.
Gazetteer of Missouri. 8vo. Saint Louis, 1875R. A. Campbell.
Illustrated History of Iowa. 8vo. Chicago, 1876.....Tuttle & Durrie.
Illustrated History of Wisconsin. 8vo. Boston, 1875....Tuttle & Durrie.
The Mines of Colorado. 12mo. Springfield, Mass., 1867...O. J. Hollister.

Biography and Genealogy.

Genealogy of the Dutton Family of Pa. 8vo. West Chester. 1871.

Gilbert Cope.

Genealogy of the Descendants of Thomas Angell. 8vo. Providence. 1872.

A. F. Angell.

Biographical History of Lancaster Co., Pa. 8vo. Lancaster. 1872.

Alex. Harris.

The Chapman Family Genealogy. 8vo. Hartford. 1854....F. W. Chapman

Genealogy of Dea. Stephen Hart & Descendants. 8vo. Hartford. 1875.

Austin Hart.

Genealogical Memoir of the Newcomb Family. 8vo. Elgin, Ill.

J. B. Newcomb

Genealogy and History of the Family of Williams. 12mo. Greenfield.

Mass.....S. W. Williams

Biographical Sketches of the Moody Family. 18mo. Boston. 1847.

C. C. P. Moody.

Memoranda of the Descendants of Amos Morris. 12mo. New York. 1853.

E. L. Hart.

The Upton Family Memorial. 8vo. Bath, Me. 1874John A. Vinton.

Memoir of Mrs. John West. 12mo. London. 1856.....John West.

Life of Maj. Gen. Wm. Henry Harrison. 8vo. Philadelphia. 1840.

Memoir of Roger Williams. 8vo. Boston. 1876.....N. M. Dexter.

The Rebellion, Etc.

The Lost Cause Regained. 12mo. New York. 1868.....E. A. Pollard.

Among the Guerrillas. 12mo. New York. 1866.....Edmund Burke

The Freedmen of the South. 12mo. Cincinnati. 1869 ...L. W. Slaughter.

Battlepieces and Aspects of the War 8vo. New York. 1866.

Herman Melville.

The Natural History of Secession. 12mo. New York. 1864.

T. S. Goodwin

Diary from November 18, 1862, to October 18, 1863. 12mo. New York. 1864

A Gurowski.

American States—Churches and Slavery. 16mo. London. 1864.

J. R. Balme.

Ninth Reunion Army of the Cumberland. 8vo. Cincinnati. 1876.

Pictorial History of the Civil War. 3 vols, 8vo. Philadelphia. 1870.

B J. Lossing.

Miscellaneous.

Canada Pacific Railway, 8vo. Ottawa. 1874..... S. Fleming.

The History of Ireland, 3 vols., 8vo London, n. d..... Thos. Wright.

The Native Races of the Pacific Coast, 5 vols., 8vo. N Y.. H. H. Bancroft.

The British Almanac and Companion, 46 vols, 12mo. London ———

The Indian in his Wigwam, 8vo. Buffalo. 1848 H. R. Schoolcraft.

History of New France, 6 vols., 8vo. New York [Trans. by Shea.]

F. X. Charlevoix.

The Olden Time, 2 vols., 8vo. Cincinnati, O. [Repub.].... N. B. Craig.

Dictionary of the English Language. Folio. London. 1730.. N. Bailey.

North American Review, 117 vols., 8vo. Boston..... ———

In all, 251 volumes have been added, at a total cost of \$496.15, being an average of nearly \$2 per volume. It is a matter of regret that our limited funds restricted us so much in the purchase of books, as there has not been so favorable a time for some years to purchase desirable books cheaply, as during the past year. Yet, with our small resources, we can add scarcely more to our library than many a well to do gentleman does to his private collection. Four or five hundred dollars per year permits but a small increase for a public library, which has so many demands upon it as ours has, and must serve for so large and extended a population, with such varied wants. Only for our careful way of purchasing, and the experience obtained by practice as to how and where and what to buy to advantage, we could not have succeeded as well as we have, with the above small expenditure in adding rare and desirable works to our shelves. But we should observe that *mere numbers* has not been at any time our aim. Had quantity and cheapness been an object, we could perhaps, have bought 2,000 volumes for the above sum—pretty fair works, too. But they would not have been the kind of works we want now. The time may come when they will be desirable, but they can then be purchased just as cheaply and easily as at present. What we are most desirous of securing now are those rare and valuable works regarding the early history

of the country, and especially the West—works growing scarcer and higher priced every year, owing to the large number of public libraries now being formed in this country, many of them with ample means, as well as an increasing number of private collectors, whose purses seem larger even than many of our public institutions. Fiction, which forms the bulk of the issues of most of the circulating libraries, has no place at all on our shelves worth mentioning. Our object is to instruct—not amuse, and every work ever purchased for our shelves is of real value. The closest watch is kept on catalogues of dealers, both in the U. S. and England, enabling us to select the best works at the lowest prices. Of course, with our restricted means this is a slow way of building up a library, but we are making steady progress, at least. Since we began making purchases 10 years ago, there has been an average number of 225 volumes purchased per year, at an average cost of \$448 per annum, or a fraction less than \$2 per volume. Considering the rarity and high price of most of the scarcer works we are securing, and the costliness of works of reference, such as encyclopedias, dictionaries, &c., the above average is certainly a very reasonable one, and we have been fortunate in our purchases. So continually enhancing in rarity and value are most of the works purchased, that we believe the above 2250 volumes are worth now, and would sell, for twice what they cost us.

To properly make the advance demanded of us, we should be able to lay out \$1,000 per year in books, at least. This would enable us to complete, or at least render sufficiently complete, several departments which would give our library an enlarged usefulness, without making any burdensome addition to our annual appropriation. That sum would enable us to meet more nearly the demand upon us. We are now continually pressed by scholars, by scientific and professional men, investigating certain lines of study, to purchase works which they have not the means of procuring, but which should be provided by the state for the use of its people. These works are generally costly, so that we are scarcely in better condition to purchase them than the scholars themselves. Most of these works do not exist in any library in the state which is accessible to the public, and our citizens have been compelled to go to Madison or Chicago, to pursue investigations on subjects in which we could give them no aid. As the commonwealth at large shares and profits, directly or indirectly, in the result of such study and researches, at least as they add to the sum of knowledge among those whose knowledge is generally made most useful

and available to others immediately around them—it is evidently the duty of the state to foster, encourage and assist such research and investigation among its citizens, especially where the outlay is comparatively small.

GIFTS.

By far the largest part of our increment, thus far, has been gifts from members and correspondents of the society, and the past year this source of accession has not been diminished, even in view of the financial stringency. In all, 110 bound and 262 unbound volumes have been received, besides a number of valuable pictures, curiosities, etc. A list of the same accompanies this report, as an appendix, but this gives no idea of the value and choiceness of many of the gifts. We might especially mention among our contributors the past year, Dr. Samuel A. Green, of Boston, who has continued the generous aid he has given us for several years past. Gen. R. W. Johnson, of St. Paul, is the donor of some 40 volumes of State Adjutant General's Reports, issued during the war, a class of works now much sought after. Hon. Alex. Ramsey, and Hon. S. J. R. McMillan contribute valuable official publications. Robert Clarke, of Cincinnati; Joel Munsell, of Albany, N. Y.; Isaac Smucker, of Newark, O.; Rev. C. D. Bradlee, of Boston, and others, names to be found on our roll of contributors for years past, again give us evidence of their kind remembrance. J. J. Howard, L. L. D., London, contributes his valuable publication "*Miscellanea Genealogica et Heraldica*," and J. L. Chester his recent elaborate work "*Registers of Westminster Abbey*." Hon. David Burt, Superintendent of Public Instruction, and Rev. Dr. Strong, of Carlton College, and Rev. D. C. Lyon, merit our thanks for special efforts to complete our sets of journals of religious bodies. Mr. C. A. Zimmerman, the photographic artist, contributes some valuable views of St. Paul and Minneapolis, taken some 20 or 25 years ago. To Hon. G. A. Hamilton, of St. Paul, and J. F. Williams, Centennial commissioner from Minnesota, we are indebted for about 100 publications on the subject of the Centennial Exhibition, catalogues, reports, etc., a valuable and interesting history of that event.

While we must depend mainly on purchasing for securing most of the rare and valuable works needed for any department, the proportion of gifts in our annual increase is significant. Out of 7,000 bound volumes on our shelves, we have purchased only 2,250, or 32 per cent, leaving 4,750, or 68 per cent, as the result

of the generosity of our members and patrons, while nearly every one of the 10,000 pamphlets, together with maps, pictures and curiosities, are also gifts.

And this stream of valuable contributions is flowing in with increasing volume. The old law that to him that hath shall be given, applies with remarkable truth to a society like this. In a former report we adverted to this curious law governing the growth of public institutions. Once it has attained, through long struggles and toil, perhaps, a prosperous standing, men seem to vie in aiding it, who would have turned away from its appeals when feeble and uncertain of success. A writer in the *New York Evening Post*, referring to a gift to a similar institution in another state, well defined this law: "Let a foundation be well established, so as to inspire entire confidence in its perpetuity, and free gifts and offerings will be made to it from all quarters, and it will go on increasing in importance and resources beyond the wildest dreams of its founders."

We have, since that date, amply demonstrated the truth of the assertion. Our accessions during 1876 were from over 20 States and Territories, and several foreign countries. It is true, we were several years in securing and making available this source of increase; but it has now become of great importance. Many of the gifts we receive are of considerable value. Rare works, privately printed books of very small editions, gifts from authors of monographs, family genealogies, &c. Some are sets of works, others only a pamphlet, perhaps, but all contributed for some object, because the work was known to be valuable, or rare, or desirable. Many were never for sale at all, but were printed for presentation only. It may be known to many that there is rapidly growing up in our country a class of persons of fine literary taste and skill, united to ample means and liberal disposition, who delight in hunting up literary curiosities, and purchasing them for presentation to institutions like our own, where they will be appreciated and preserved. The late Geo. W. Falmestock, whose generous and valuable gifts to us were noted in an earlier report, was an example of this class. This presents strongly the advantages a Society such as this possesses in collecting a valuable library, and to this end the systematic and untiring efforts of our librarian, and other members, are directed.

OUR NEWSPAPER COLLECTION

Continues to increase in size and in value, gratifyingly. Our

librarian has made this department a specialty, and has devoted to it a zealous and watchful care, and with pleasing results. We have now over 600 bound volumes of newspapers, the larger part of them relating to our own State, and commencing with the first paper, the "Minnesota Pioneer," April 28, 1849, coeval with the birth of our Territory. Of many of the journals of our State we have complete files. Of many of them we have the *only* files in existence. Indeed, it may be said, regarding almost any of our volumes, that they are utterly irreplaceable by any sum of money; while, collectively, the wealth of the Indies would not again gather them, in the event of their destruction. Their safety is one of the main reasons which lead us to wish so keenly for a fireproof depository. The loss of these complete and admirable materials for the history of our State and its people, would be deplorable, and be more and more keenly felt as years rolled on. They are, in general, not to be had outside of our library. So few files, even of more important journals, are preserved, and these often bear the hazard of loss and waste by fire, or carelessness and ignorance, that he who would undertake now, even with the treasures of a realm at his command, to gather these ephemeral chronicles of the past, would return almost empty-handed. It is well that our Society began its collection of these invaluable records of our history simultaneous with their appearance, and continued it, as far as our means would permit, until the present time. It is true, there are gaps in the collection which somewhat mar the chronological completeness of the series of some of the journals, although by the overlapping of the other files these periods are tolerably well covered. It might be proper to add here, that this occurred through no dereliction of the Society. These hiati represent the dark days of financial disaster, rebellion, and Indian massacre, from 1859 to 1862, a period when the Society was left utterly without a penny to pay postage with, and its most active workers absent in the army. Some of the valuable files covering this period have been secured since, and indeed, we have a fair collection on that interesting period of State history, but not so complete as it would have been, had not the only income the Society had (an appropriation of \$500 in State scrip, worth sometimes not over 40 cents on the dollar) been totally withdrawn.

To give a more definite idea of the extent and completeness of our collection of Minnesota journals, we give in the appendix a list of the bound* files arranged alphabetically under the name of the

* In addition to these bound volumes, we have some unbound files, covering different periods, so fragmentary that we have left them, for the present, in that condition, but, if no opportunity soon offers to complete them we will bind them also.

towns where published. This catalogue will be useful to those elsewhere in the state, wishing to see what materials for the history of their counties we have in our collection.

GENERAL REMARKS ON THE COLLECTION.

It will be observed, on examining the list, that the files of a few papers appear somewhat irregular. There are numerous reasons for this. The frequent changes in the proprietorship, caused by financial reverses, would call for a revision of the mail list, and all free papers (for they were sent to us free,) were generally cut off. There were also frequent changes in name, which did not, however, affect the consecutive issue of the journal without other change. Very frequently the offices of publication were moved from one town to another during the county seat struggles of the earlier days—changing the place of issue merely, the paper being otherwise the same. No business has been subject to more fluctuations, uncertainties and vicissitudes than journalism in Minnesota, during its earlier years. The enterprises of this nature started and “run” a few months, and then discontinued, make a list of formidable length.* Of many of these journals we have the only files in existence. There is not one, no matter how small or fragmentary, which does not contain most valuable matter, to be found in no other shape.

Had the Society possessed the means, during the earlier years, to have secured, by subscription, the complete journalism of the territory, our collection would be much more full and valuable than it is, and could probably have been made absolutely complete. Those collected were the generous gift of the publishers, themselves, in nearly every instance, struggling against pecuniary disaster, and perhaps illy able to make the contribution. Even now, some papers which are unable to furnish us with copies, could be secured thus, were it not so manifestly unjust to the others who have generously sent us their issues free. It has been once or twice proposed by members of the legislature to couple with the annual appropriation by the state for publication of the session laws a proviso that each journal receiving that patronage shall contribute a copy to be preserved here. This has never been done, however, and we still rely on the voluntary action of the publishers, knowing that the pride which every journalist feels in his important profession, will cause him to feel solicitous of send-

* Out of 42 journals received and filed by this Society in 1867, no less than 22 are now discontinued.

ing to us, for preservation, a complete file of his paper. This Society, and the people of the state, for whom they are acting, must always gratefully remember the generosity of the newspaper publishers in Minnesota and adjacent states, in aiding in the formation of a collection of such splendid and invaluable materials for a history.

VALUE OF NEWSPAPERS AS MATERIALS FOR HISTORY.

There is not an issue of the smallest and feeblest country newspaper which does not contain matter which, perhaps years hence, may be of the most vital importance, affecting the estates, the reputation, nay, even the liberty, of some citizen. Lest it might be supposed that we have overrated newspapers as materials for history, we quote from a chapter in the recent report of the Bureau of Education, on "Public Libraries in the United States," written by Hon. A. R. Spofford, Librarian of Congress:

"The modern newspaper and other periodical publications afford the truest, the fullest, and on the whole, the most impartial image of the age we live in that can be derived from any single source. Taken together, they afford the richest material for the historian or the student of politics, of society, of literature, and of civilization in its various aspects. What precious memorials of the day even the advertisements and brief paragraphs of the newspapers of a century ago afford us! While in a field so vast it is impossible for any one library to be more than a gleaner, no such institution can afford to neglect the collection and preservation of at least some of the more important newspapers from year to year. A public library is not for one generation only, but it is for all time. Opportunities once neglected of securing the current periodicals of any age in continuous and complete form seldom or never recur. The principle of selection will, of course, vary in different libraries and localities. While the safest general rule is to secure the best and most representatives of all the journals, reviews, and magazines within the limits of the fund which can be devoted to that purpose, there is another principle which should largely guide the selections.

"In each locality it should be one leading object of the principal library to gather within its walls the fullest representation possible of the literature relating to its own State and neighborhood. In every city and large town the local journals and other periodicals should form an indispensable part of a public library collection. Where the means are wanting to purchase these, the

proprietors will frequently furnish them free of expense for a public use; but no occasion should be lost of securing, immediately on its issue from the press, every publication, large or small, which relates to the local history or interests of the place where the library is maintained. This collection should embrace not only newspapers, magazines, etc., but a complete collection of all casual pamphlets, reports of municipal governments, with their subdivisions, reports of charitable or benevolent societies, schools, etc., and even the prospectuses, bulletins, catalogues, etc., of real estate agents and tradesmen. Every library should have its scrap-book (or series of them) for preserving the political broadsides and fugitive pieces of the day which in any way reflect or illustrate the spirit of the times or the condition of the people. These unconsidered trifles, commonly swept out and thrown away as worthless, if carefully preserved and handed down to the future, will be found to form precious memorials of a bygone age.

"How many pages of our modern philosophic historians are illuminated by traits of character and manners derived from these ephemeral handbills, broadsides, ballads, and other forgotten "rubbish" of the centuries that are gone. While the files of the journals of any period furnish unquestionably the best instruments for the history of that epoch, it is lamentable to reflect that so little care has ever been taken to preserve a fair representation of those of any age. The destiny of nearly all newspapers is swift destruction; and even those which are preserved, commonly survive in a provokingly fragmentary state. The obvious causes of the rapid disappearance of periodical literature are its great volume, necessarily increasing, with every year, the difficulty of lodging the files of any long period in our narrow apartments, and the continual demand for paper for the uses of trade. To these must be added the great cost of binding files of journals, increasing in the direct ratio of the size of the volumes. As so formidable an expense can be incurred by very few private subscribers to periodicals, so much more important is it that the public libraries should not neglect a duty which they owe to their generation as well as to those that are to follow.

"These poor journals of to-day, which everybody is ready to stigmatize as trash not worth the room to store or the money to bind, are the very materials which the man of the future will search for with eagerness, and for some of which he will be ready to pay their weight in gold.

"These representatives of the commercial, industrial, inventive, social, literary, political, moral, and religious life of the times

should be preserved and handed down to posterity with sedulous care.

“No historian or other writer on any subject, who would write conscientiously or with full information, can afford to neglect this fruitful mine of the journals, where his richest materials are frequently to be found.

“In the absence of a great library of journals, or of that universal library which every nation should possess, it becomes the more important to assemble in the various local libraries all these ephemeral publications, which, if not thus preserved contemporaneously with their issue, will disappear utterly and elude the search of future historical inquirers. And that library which shall the most sedulously gather and preserve such fugitive memorials of the life of the people among which it is situated, will be found to have best subverted its purpose to the succeeding generations of men.”

PATENT SPECIFICATIONS.

Our patent specifications continue to be of the greatest use and value to artisans and manufacturers. We have received, during 1876, twelve volumes of the specifications, and the weekly issues of the “Patent Office Gazette.” We have now 105 volumes of the new series, 46 of the old, and 8 bound volumes of the Gazette—total 156. This is the only set in the state, complete and accessible to the public. It extends back, complete, a period of over 30 years, commencing with No. 4,914, in the year 1846. At the writing of this report, the current number is about 184,000. We have also recently procured the republication, by the Patent Office, of all the specifications and drawings from 1790 to 1836, in one volume, and also the general index of all inventions from 1790 to 1874. We now only lack the numbers from 1836 to 1846, and these will probably be republished by the patent office.

There are artisans and manufacturers who resort to our rooms and study our patents during their leisure hours, as regularly as professional men study their own class of works. In view of the enormous number of patents now extant, covering almost everything “under the sun,” it is absolutely necessary for mechanics who are pondering any invention, to see what has been patented in the same line, before spending any time or money.

The large and increasing use made of these specifications, is a good evidence of their value, and taken in connection with the fact that there are now firms in our state engaged in patent solic-

iting and agency, shows that there is already springing up in our state quite a considerable class of inventors and ingenious mechanics, a most valuable class to any community, and one that should be encouraged by every means open to the state. The stimulus given to the natural ingenuity of the "Yankee" race by the large profit on any successful article enuring to the discoverer or patentee, has awakened the study of mechanical sciences and natural philosophy to a degree unknown before, and will result in valuable discoveries among our citizens, which will increase the wealth and resources of the whole commonwealth. Indeed, libraries and cabinets of natural history and laboratories to facilitate such investigations are now a necessity. Quite a number of patents have already been issued to citizens of this state. As proper aids to the study of these patent specifications, a few works of reference, or hand-books, are needed on scientific subjects, such as architecture, chemistry, mineralogy, mining, hydrostatics, dynamics, and the physical sciences generally.

PUBLICATIONS.

No effort has been spared during the past year, to collect contributions from those pioneers of our State, who are able to furnish them, of such facts and events in our early days, not yet recorded, as will throw light on the pre-territorial days of Minnesota, and properly narrate the part borne in the planting of our commonwealth, by its old settlers. This is a work which must not be delayed, as the few who can furnish these valuable facts are rapidly passing away, or becoming too infirm to undergo the application necessary to write any extended narrative. We are not unmindful of the precarious chance to secure the valuable reminiscences they alone can give, and one of our main duties is now to accomplish this. Several gentlemen have valuable papers in preparation. We have already done much in that direction, in the publication of three volumes of historical collections filled with valuable matter, and hope to continue the series, until every point of our early history shall have been written up and published for the information of our citizens and scholars elsewhere. In this connection, we again urge (not only our members) but any and every citizen who can write anything, to do so. If not printed immediately,—though we publish as promptly as our means permit,—the manuscript will at least be safe and available for use.

In our annual report a year ago, we alluded to a work called

"History of the City of St. Paul and County of Ramsey," the copyright of which was offered to the Society, by the author, on the condition that it would publish the same, the profits to go to the Society. A few of our members generously advanced the means to issue the work, which was done in a very neat and creditable manner, forming Vol. IV of our "Collections." It was not so successful pecuniarily as had been hoped, owing to the financial stringency, but enough were sold to pay all expenses of publication. The Society has also been enabled to use the remaining copies in exchanging with sister Societies, to distribute to the press, and to trade for other books. Some 200 copies have thus been used to advantage, and 150 remain, which may yet be sold.

We are receiving in our work of securing facts about the unwritten history of the State, valuable aid from the "Old Settler's Association of Minnesota." It is in reality a branch of this Society in many respects. The memoirs and facts collected by it, are precisely what we need, and as the Old Settlers deposit their papers, books and documents with us, for safe keeping, are accessible for use. When that Association dissolves, as it must in time, by the death of its last member, this Society is to receive its records and other property.

PUBLISHED MATERIALS FOR MINNESOTA HISTORY.

Reference was made, under another head, to the value of ephemeral publications, such as pamphlets, papers, broadsides, handbills, &c., as materials of history. Their value will be most recognized by those who have most used, or most endeavored to collect them. We wish to remind our members, and all citizens, of the desirability of making our collection complete, in everything relating to Minnesota. Nothing need be considered too trifling for our purposes. It may seem trifling now, indeed, but as its preservation is one of our objects, in the future (and our work is largely for the future) its full value will be known.

For instance, the journals of our various religious bodies is one branch of materials having a peculiar value, as including the *names* of large classes of our active citizens. Our librarian has, by special effort, succeeded in completing sets of journals of six of the leading denominations in this State. Some are now absolutely complete, and of these there are probably not more than two or three complete sets in Minnesota. No one, except those who have endeavored to gather a set of such pamphlets, could realize how

scarce, how almost unobtainable, they become, sometimes within a few months after their publication. As many of these are printed in other cities of the State, and thus escape the knowledge of the librarian, our friends in those places are urgently requested to secure and forward to us these waifs for preservation.

Societies and organizations of various kinds, after operating some years, often disband. Their records might ultimately be valuable, if there were any place to deposit them. This society offers such a place for archives of that kind, where they will be secure from the loss which generally overtakes such ownerless documents.

ROOMS—PROPOSED FIRE-PROOF BUILDING.

In one of our previous reports, we called attention to the crowded condition of our rooms, which taken into connection with our steady growth, points to a period quite near at hand, when our present rooms will be totally inadequate to contain, or at least properly accommodate, our bibliothecal treasures. In fact, we are already quite hampered in our growth and operations, by our restricted quarters, while they are unhealthy and otherwise unfit for our purposes.

We are, therefore, justified in again, more pointedly perhaps than previously, calling the attention of our members and patrons to the absolute necessity of providing, before many months, a commodious fire-proof building for our use. We can then meet more nearly the demands upon us for securing, preserving and rendering attainable for use, our treasures of knowledge in its many departments. How such a building is to be secured, is a question we shall have to defer solving until the issue is to be squarely met. Perhaps a way will then be seen out of our difficulties. Such a building will perhaps cost, indeed, ought to cost, \$25,000. Whether this should be: 1. Furnished by the State; 2. Raised by subscription; or, 3. Partly by both, are questions we do not now propose to discuss. At any rate, when the financial pressure is lifted, the matter should receive our serious consideration. If it is not delayed until the flames shall have swept away these gatherings of quarter of a century, we shall be fortunate.

LIBRARIES AS A MORAL POWER.

We have thus enumerated, somewhat in detail, the objects of the Society, and the means now used to carry out those objects.

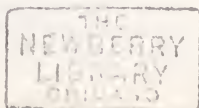
We feel greatly encouraged as we refer to the latter division of the subject, and indulge in a pardonable pride in that success. If we should not in any particular, however, have fulfilled the expectations of our friends, we can only say, there is much we *wished* to do, which we were without the means to accomplish.

Nor have we overrated the importance and value of our work. Indeed, it would scarcely be possible to do so. We live in an age of remarkable mental activity. Public libraries are now rightly estimated as one of the greatest promoters of what is termed modern civilization, and culture, and one of the chief adjuncts of our fine and valuable educational system. Many regard them, indeed, as a sequel, rather than a department, of that system. While they may have a special work, or division, like the Normal School, or the University, they supplement the work of both. The schools awaken the thirst for knowledge—libraries gratify it. Emerson, "the Sage of Concord," has said—that "the great library is to the modern learner the equivalent of the University." It is, in many respects, even more than a University. It gathers and records the learning, the ideas, the history, the progress of each age. Generations may come, play their noisy part, and disappear, leaving scarce a record of what they were, or what they did, except what is found in the scroll of the historian, or the archives of the municipality, and the public library, enduring and changeless, gathers and treasures up these records at the last. Silent and voiceless, yet living and speaking, they stand on its shelves.

It does not play a conspicuous part in society. Its existence may be unnoticed by the mass of men, yet it reaches and moves them all the same with its silent, yet powerful forces. From these fountains of thought, streams of information continually flow, in various directions, and to various results. It is reproduced in a myriad of ways, and enriches a multitude of efforts. The pulpit, the press, the rostrum—three powerful forces in society—would have but a tithe of their power, without the public library. Through them it speaks to millions, and its potent influences silently, but surely, tell on the destiny of the nation.

"Libraries," to quote a recent writer, "have ever been the conservators of popular intelligence. Whenever and wherever a collection of books has been formed, then and there other agencies of knowledge and thought cluster together. Books are the nucleus about which culture crystallizes, like a gem of many facets. They are at the center of literature, science and art. They illuminate education, religion and life. They are the stimulus of students, the strength of scholars, and the delight of men of taste."

Such is the importance of the trust devolving upon us, and hoping that we may administer it in the future as we believe we have in the past, justly and successfully, this report is respectfully submitted.



APPENDIX.

LIST OF DONORS.

FROM INDIVIDUALS.

	Bound Vols.	Unbound.
Geo. W. Anderson, Esq., St. Paul.....	1	
Hon. C. C. Andrews, Stockholm.....		1
Hon. M. K. Armstrong, Yankton, D. T.....		1
Mrs. Mary C. Baker, St. Paul.....		1
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Richard Clute, Esq., Minneapolis.....		1
Joseph L. Chester, London, Eng.....	1	
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Maj. Gen. J. Watts De Peyster, New York.....		1
Prof. Wm. W. Folwell, State University.....		20
Dr. Samuel A. Green, Boston.....	1	44
Geo. A. Hamilton, Esq., St. Paul.....	2	13
John H. Hanson, Esq., St. Paul.....		1
N. J. Herrick, Lawrence, Mass.....		3
J. J. Howard, LL. D., London, Eng.....		12
Col Albert H. Hoyt, Boston.....		1
Gen. R. W. Johnson, St. Paul.....	40	
Seneca G. Lapham, Esq., Milwaukee.....	1	
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Joel Munsell, Esq., Albany, N. Y.....		29
James Nesbitt, Esq., Troy, N. Y.....		2
T. S. Parvin, Grand Sec. of Iowa.....	2	
Prof. W. F. Phelps, Winona.....	1	
Hon. Edmund Quincy, Boston.....	1	
Hon. Alex. Ramsey, St. Paul.....		47
G. S. Sargent, Esq., Brookline, Mass.....		1
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Dr. Isaac Smucker, Newark, O.....		1
Rev. H. A. Stimson, Minneapolis.....		1
Rev. E. M. Stone, Providence, R. I.....		1
Rev. J. W. Strong, D. D., Northfield, Minn.....		3
J. F. Williams, St. Paul.....	6	68

FROM SOCIETIES, INSTITUTIONS, ETC.

American Antiquarian Society		1
Massachusetts Historical Society	1	1
Vermont Historical Society		1
New England Historic-Genealogical Society		1
Essex Institute, Salem, Mass.		5
Georgia Historical Society		2
Maryland Historical Society		2
New Jersey Historical Society		1
Pennsylvania Historical Society	2	
Western Reserve and Northern Ohio Historical Society		1
Free Public Library, Worcester, Mass.		1
Astor Library, New York		1
Peabody Museum of Archaeology, etc., Cambridge		1
Yale College		3
Mercantile Library, New York	1	1
Philadelphia Library Company		1
State Library of Michigan		1
Indiana State Archaeological Convention		1
Bureau of Education		2
Surgeon General's Office		1
State Board of Health, Mass.		1
Department of Interior	38	2
Pennsylvania State Board of Charities	1	
War Department U. S.	1	
Royal Historical Society of England		1

CATALOGUE OF BOUND NEWSPAPERS.

- Albert Lea Freeborn Co. Eagle, Jan. 15, 1859, to May 12, 1860.
 Freeborn Co. Standard, Sept. 29, 1860, to Jan. 23, 1862.
 Freeborn Co. Standard, Jan. 1, 1868, to Dec. 31, '73, (2 vol.)
- Alexandria.....Alexandria Post, Sept. 22, 1868, to Dec. 30, 1876. (2 vol.)
- Anoka.....Anoka Star, Oct. 3, 1863, to Sept. 3, 1864.
 Anoka Union, Jan. 2, 1868, to Dec. 27, 1870.
 Anoka Co. Press, Jan. 26, 1869, to Dec. 30, 1872.
 Anoka Co. Union, Jan. 3, 1871, to Dec. 30, 1876, (2 vol.)
 Anoka Co. Republican, Jan. 1874, to Dec. 1875.
- AustinMower Co. Mirror, Nov. 4, 1858, to Oct. 13, 1859.
 Minnesota Courier, Mar. 26, 1862, to Dec. 24, 1862.
 Minnesota Courier, Jan. 6, 1863, to Jan. 6, 1864.
 Mower Co. Register, Mar. 10, 1864, to Sept. 1864.
 Austin Register, Jan. 3, 1867, to Dec. 30, 1876, (3 vols.)
 Mower Co. Transcript, July 15, '69, to Dec. 30, '76, (2 vols.)
 Mower and Fillmore Co. Republican, Oct. '75, to Dec. 30, '76.
- Beaver Falls....Beaver Falls Gazette, 1870.
- Belle Plaine....Belle Plaine Enquirer, March 18, 1858, to Oct. 12, 1861.
- Blue Earth City..Blue Earth City News, Nov. 2, 1861 to July 12, 1862.
 South West Minnesotian, Aug. 2, 1862, to Sept. 13, 1862.
 The South West, March, 1868, to Sept. 2, 1871.
 Blue Earth City Post, 1869-76.
 Blue Earth City Bee, 1875-6.
- Brainerd.....Brainerd Tribune, Feb. 10, 1872, to Dec. 26, 1876.
- Brownsville....Brownsville Herald, Aug. 2, 1856, to Jan. 23, 1858.
 Southern Minnesota Herald, Mar. 1, 1858, to Apr. 16, 1859.
 Brownsville Free Press, Dec. 15, 1865, to May 21, 1869.
 Western Progress, Apr. 28, 1869, to May 7, 1870.
- Caledonia.....Houston Co. Journal, Feb. 2, '69, to Aug. 31, '69.
- Cannon Falls....Cannon Falls Beacon, 1876.
- Carver.....Carver Co. Democrat, May 17, 1859, to Aug. 3, 1859.
 Carver Co. Free Press, 1876.
- Chaska.....Valley Herald, Sept. 4, 1862, to Nov. 6, 1862.
 Valley Herald, Jan. 2, 1864, to Dec. 27, 1876, (6 vols.)
- Chatfield.....Chatfield Democrat, Dec. 18, 1858 to Aug. 27, 1864 (2 vols.)
 Chatfield Democrat, Jan. 5, 1867, to Dec. 25, 1875.
 Chatfield Republican, Nov. 15, 1859, to Oct. 15, 1861.
- Delano.....Big Woods Citizen, 1873 to Dec. 30, 1876.
 Wright County Eagle, }
- Delavan.....Delavan Bee, 1872 to 1874.
- DetroitDetroit Record, May 18, 1872 to Jan. 30, 1875.
- Duluth.....Duluth Minnesotian, April 24, 1869 to Dec. 26, 1874, (2 vols.)
 Duluth Tribune, May 4, 1870 to Nov. 5, 1875.
 Duluth Herald, 1875.
 Duluth Minnesotian-Herald, 1875 and 1876.
 Duluth Morning Call, daily, Jan. 4, 1871 to May 28, 1871.
 Duluth Weekly Democrat, April 2, 1871 to Oct. 1, 1871.
- Eyota.....Eyota Advertiser, (m.) 1870 to 1876.
- Fairmont....Martin County Atlas, April 11, 1868 to Dec. 29, 1869.
 Martin County Review, Aug. 20, 1870 to Aug 16, 1872.
 Martin County Sentinel, 1875 and 1876.

- Faribault.....Central Republican } June 23, 1853 to Dec. 30, '76 (9 vols.)
 Faribault Republican }
 Faribault Leader [and Democrat,] Aug. 2, 1870 to July 11, 1875.
 Northern Statesman and Western Farmer, Nov. 12, 1861 to March 18, 1862.
- Farmington....Farmington Telegraph, June 4, 1868, to Aug. 26, 1869
 Farmington Press, Aug. 4, 1870 to Dec. 25, 1876, (2 vols.)
- Fergus Falls....Fergus Falls Advocate, April 22, 1871 to Nov. 9, 1876.
 Fergus Falls Journal, July 24, 1873 to Dec. 30, 1876.
- Garden City....Garden City Herald, Oct. 23, 1867 to Aug. 5, 1870.
- Glencoe.....Glencoe Register, Jan. 15, 1859 to June 22, 1860.
 Glencoe Register, Jan. 18, 1862 to July 12, 1862.
 Glencoe Register, Jan. 9, 1863 to Dec. 22, 1870.
 Glencoe Register, March 2, 1871, to Dec. 28, 1876, (2 vols.)
 McLeod County Register, April 9, 1868 to July 2, 1868.
- Glenwood.....Glenwood Eagle, Nov. 4, 1871 to Sept. 26, 1874.
- Granite Falls...Granite Falls Journal, 1875 to 1876.
- Hastings.....Hastings Independent, Jan. 27, 1859 to Dec. 25, 1862.
 Hastings Independent, Jan. 28, 1864 to Dec. 29, 1866.
 Hastings Ledger, March 26, 1859, to Oct. 8, 1859.
 Hastings Democrat, Dec. 7, 1859, to Apr. 27, 1861.
 Minnesota Conservator, April 25, 1861 to March 26, 1862.
 Minnesota Conservator, Jan. 8, 1863 to Nov. 13, 1866.
 Hastings Gazette, Oct. 5, 1867 to Dec. 31, 1876, (3 vols.)
 Dakota County Union, Oct. 23, 1867 to Dec. 31, '76, (3 vols.)
- Henderson.....Henderson Democrat, April 3, 1856 to May 4, 1861, (2 vols.)
 Henderson Times, Jan. 6, 1872 to April 29, 1875.
- Hokah.....Hokah Chief, March 27, 1858 to Feb. 5, 1859.
 Hokah Chief, Feb. 7, 1860, to Nov. 18, 1862.
 Hokah Blade, Nov. 1875 to Dec. 30, 1876.
- Jackson.....Jackson Republic, March 5, 1870 to Dec. 28, 1876, (2 vols.)
- Kasson.....Dodge County Republican, Aug. 1871 to Dec. 1870.
 Dodge County Republican, June 23, 1871 to Dec. 25, 1875.
- Lac qui Parle...Lac qui Parle Press, 1873 to 1876.
- La Crescent....La Crescent Plaindealer, April 16, 1861, to Nov. 1, 1862.
- Lake City.....Lake City Times, March 1, 1862, to Dec. 27, 1862.
 Lake City Leader, Aug. 5, 1865, to Dec. 30, 1876, (4 vols.)
 Wabasha County Sentinel, Feb. 8, 1871, to Dec. 31, 1876, (2 vols.)
- Lanesboro.....Lanesboro Herald, Sept. 17, 1868, to Nov. 14, 1871.
 Lanesboro Clarion, Nov. 28, 1871, to Dec. 26, 1871.
- Le Sueur.....Le Sueur Courier, Dec. 11, 1867 to Aug. 27, 1873, (2 vols.)
- Litchfield.....Meeker Co. News, Jan. 7, 1871, to Dec. 29, 1873.
 Ledger and News-Ledger, Jan. 1, 1874, to Dec. 30, 1876.
- Madelia.....Herald, 1873 and 1874.
- Mankato.....Mankato Independent, Feb. 4, 1860, to December 20, 1862.
 Mankato Record, March 29, 1861, to Oct. 29, 1861.
 Mankato Record, Jan. 18, 1862, to Dec. 20, 1862.
 Mankato Record, Jan. 3, 1863, to June 16, 1863.
 Mankato Record, July 18, 1863, to Dec. 16, 1865.
 Mankato Record, Dec. 7, 1867, to Dec. 31, 1876 (3 vols.)
 Mankato Review, Jan. 6, 1873, to Dec. 28, 1875.
 Mankato Union, July 17, 1863, to Dec. 29, 1865.
 Mankato Union, Jan. 3, 1867, to Dec. 24, 1876 (3 vols.)
- Mantorville....Mantorville Express, March 18, 1858, to Dec. 29, 1876, (7 vols.)
- Marshall.....Prairie Schooner, }
 Marshall Messenger, } Oct., 1872, to Dec., 1876.
- Minneapolis....St. Anthony Express, May 31, 1851 to June 17, 1854.
 [and St. Anthony] Apr. 21, 1860, to Feb. 23, 1861.
 North Western Democrat, } May 24, 1854, to July 12, 1856.
 Minnesota Democrat } July 19, 1856, to Oct. 17, 1857.
 Minnesota Republican, Nov. 30, 1854, to Oct. 11, 1855.
 Minneapolis Gazette, Mar. 16, 1858, to Oct. 1, 1858.

- Minneapolis Minnesota State News: W., Jan. 14, 1860, to Dec. 10, 1862.
 [& St. Anthony] The State Atlas, Jan. 7, 1863, to Aug. 24, 1861.
 Minneapolis Chronicle, D., June 16, 1866, to Apr. 30, 1867.
 Daily Tribune, May 23, 1869, to Dec. 31, 1875. (13 vols.)
 St. Anthony Falls Democrat, Oct. 8, 1869, to Dec. 28, 1871.
 Daily Evening News, May 1, to Dec. 31, 1872.
 Daily Evening News, Jan. 8, 1873, to May 30, 1873.
 Daily Evening Times, Jan. 1, 1873, to Dec. 30, 1873. (2 vols.)
 Daily Evening Mail, Jan. 2, 1875, to Dec. 31, 1875.
 Nordisk Folkeblad, Mar. 17, 1869, to Dec. 30, 1876
 Citizen, 1874, to 1876. (vols. 3-5.)
 Buddstikken, Sept., 1873, to Dec. 28, 1876.
 Gopher Mirror, 1874.
 (Total, 28 vols.)
- Monticello..... Wright County Republican, Sept. 22, 1860, to June 8, 1861.
 Northwestern Union, Feb. 22, 1862, to April 12, 1862.
 Wright County Times, Jan. 3, '71, to Dec. 24, '76. (2 vols.)
- Moorhead Red River Star, July 6, 1872, to Dec. 30, 1876.
- New Ulm..... New Ulm Pioneer, Jan. 7, 1860, to Aug. 9, 1862.
 New Ulm Plaindealer, Nov. 12, 1870, to Dec. 6, 1872.
 New Ulm Herald, Aug. 1874 to Dec. 30, 1876.
- Northfield Northfield Telegraph, May 13, 1861, to March 19, 1862.
 Northfield Standard, July 1872 to Feb. 10, 1876.
- Otter Tail Otter Tail City Record, Sept. 30, 1871, to May 11, 1872.
- Owatonna The Representative, Jan. 9, 1861, to March 13, 1861.
 Owatonna Plaindealer, Oct. 1, 1863, to Nov. 30, 1865.
 Owatonna Journal, Dec. 8, 1870, to Aug. 1875, (2 vols.)
 Owatonna Register, Oct. 23, 1867, to April 30, 1868.
- Perham Perham News, 1875.
- Pine City..... Pine County News, Oct. 1874 to Dec. 1876.
- Preston..... The Republican, Nov. 2, 1861, to Oct. 23, 1876, (4 vols.)
 Fillmore County Republican, Nov. 4, 1870, to Sept. 17, 1875.
 Preston Republican, 1876.
- Princeton..... Princeton Appeal, 1874 to 1876.
- Red Wing Sentinel, Jan. 1, 1859, to April 24, 1861
 Goodhue County Republican, Feb. 3, 1860, to Aug. 26, 1864.
 do. Jan. 4, 1867, to Dec. 31, 1876,
 (3 vols.)
 Goodhue County Volunteer, Feb. 19, 1862, to Aug. 24, 1864.
 Red Wing Argus, Jan. 2, 1868, to Dec. 31, 1876, (3 vols.)
 The North Star, Dec. 1, 1871, to Dec. 3, 1872.
 Grange Advance, 1874 to 1876.
- Red Wood Falls Red Wood Falls Mail, Sept. 17, 1869, to Dec. 27, 1872.
 Red Wood Gazette, Jan. 1, 1873, to Dec. 31, 1876.
- Rochester Rochester Democrat, March 18, 1858, to Oct. 21, 1858.
 Rochester Free Press, Jan. 1, 1858, to Jan. 6, 1859.
 Rochester Post, Nov. 2, 1859, to Aug. 2, 1862.
 do. April 18, 1863, to Sept. 22, 1864.
 do. Oct. 12, 1867, to Dec. 31, 1876, (3 vols.)
 Rochester Republican, March 5, 1862, to Aug. 24, 1864.
 The Federal Union, Jan. 4, 1868, to Dec. 26, 1873.
 Central Record, (S. W.,) Feb. 4, 1871, to Dec. 30, 1871.
 The Minnesota Record, Jan. 27, 1872, to March 7, 1874.
 Record and Union, 1874 to 1876.
 Nordisk Volkeblad, March 12, 1868, to May 14, 1868.
 (Total 16 volumes.)
- Rush City Chisago County Post, 1875 to 1876.
- Saint Charles... St. Charles Herald, March 13, 1868, to Oct. 2, 1868.
 St. Charles Times, 1874 to 1876.
- Saint Cloud.... The Democrat, March 3, 1859, to July 19, 1866, (3 vols.)
 The St. Cloud Times, April 9, 1864, to Nov. 5, 1864.
 do. Sept. 15, '66, to Dec. 31, '76. (3 vols.)
 St. Cloud Journal, Jan. 2, 1868, to May 25, 1876, (3 vols.)
 St. Cloud Journal-Press, May 25, 1876, to Dec. 30, 1876.
 St. Cloud Press, 1872 to 1876.

- Saint Paul:.....One hundred and thirty-one volumes, from April 26, 1849.
to Dec. 31, 1876.
- Saint Peter.....St. Peter Courier, Ap. 26, 1855, to Jan. 1, 1858.
St. Peter Free Press, May 27, 1857, to Dec. 7, 1859.
St. Peter Tribune, Jan. 9, 1863, to Dec. 31, 1876, (5 vols.)
Minnesota Statesman, Oct. 8, 1858, to Dec. 23, 1859.
- Sauk Center....Sauk Center Herald, Jan. 9, 1868, to Dec. 26, 1876, (3 vols.)
- Sauk Rapids....Sauk Rapids Frontiersman, Sept. 29, 1859, to Dec. 22, 1859.
Sauk Rapids New Era, Jan. 26, 1860, to Nov. 29, 1860.
Sauk Rapids Sentinel, Jan. 1, 1868, to Dec. 31, 1876, (3 vols.)
- Shakopee.....Shakopee Independent, Nov. 10, 1855, to Feb. 11, 1857.
Valley Herald, Feb. 25, 1857, to Oct. 23, 1857.
Scott Co. Democrat, Ap. 3, 1859, to Aug. 24, 1861.
Scott Co. Argus, Nov. 13, 1861, to Dec. 31, 1862.
Shakopee Argus, July 4, 1863, to Sept. 25, 1865.
Shakopee Argus, Feb. 11, 1867, to Dec. 31, 1876, (3 vols.)
Shakopee Spy, Dec. 16, 1868, to Dec. 8, 1870.
Shakopee Spectator, Nov. 16, 1867, to Ap. 2, 1868.
- Spring Valley...Western Progress, June 15, 1870, to Dec. 31, 1876, (3 vols.)
- Stillwater.....St. Croix Union, Jan. 4, 1854, to Dec. 1857.
Stillwater Democrat, Jan. 8, 1859, to Feb. 2, 1861.
Stillwater Messenger, June 8, 1858, to Mar. 11, '68, (4 vols.)
Stillwater Messenger, Dec. 23, 1870, to Dec. 31, '76, (2 vols.)
Stillwater Republican, Mar. 18, 1863, to Dec. 8, 1870.
Stillwater Gazette, 1873, to Jan. 6, 1875.
- Taylor's Falls...Taylor's Falls Reporter, Feb. 23, 1860, to July 31, 1862.
Taylor's Falls Reporter, Jan. 2, 1866, to July, 1873, (3 vols.)
Taylor's Falls Journal, July, 1873, to Dec. 1876.
- Wabasha.....Wabasha Co. Herald, Jan. 29, 1859, to Dec. 26, 1875 (6 vols.)
[and Reed's] Wabasha Co. Journal, Oct. 29, 1859, to Aug. 31, 1861.
Minnesota Patriot, Jan. 8, 1859, to Oct. 1, 1859.
- Waseca.....Waseca News, Nov. 29, 1867, to Dec. 30, 1874.
Waseca Radical, Jan. 1, 1875, to Dec. 31, 1876.
- Wasioja.....Minnesota Beacon (s. w.) June 15, 1860, to Sept. 15, 1860.
Free Will Baptist (m), May, 1862, to Nov. 1862.
- Wells.....Wells Atlas, Jan. 20, 1870, to Dec. 9, 1874.
Faribault Co. Leader, 1874 and 1875 (imperfect.)
- Willmar.....Willmar Republican, Jan. 28, 1871, to August 26, 1873.
- Wilton.....Waseca Home Views, June 3, 1860, to Sept. 26, 1861.
Waseca Citizen, Dec. 28, 1860, to March 27, 1861.
- Windom.....Windom Reporter, Sept. 11, 1871, to Dec. 31, 1876, (2 vols.)
- Winnebago City..Winnebago City Press, June 23, 1870, to Dec. 14, 1871.
- Winona.....Winona Republican (w) Nov. 27, 1855, to Sept. 24, 1862
(2 vols.)
Winona Republican, Jan. 2, 1867, to Dec. 31, 1876, (3 vols.)
Winona Republican (daily) Jan. 1, 1876, to Dec. 31, 1876 (2
vols.)
Winona Express, Aug. 14, 1855, to Oct. 16, 1855.
Winona Argus, Feb. 26, 1857, to Sept. 3, 1857.
Winona Times, Feb. 6, 1858, to July 17, 1858.
Winona Democrat, (weekly) Nov. 20, 1858, to Nov. 17, '60.
Winona Democrat, (daily) Jan. 8, '68, to Nov. 12, '68, (2 vols.)
Winona Herald, May 7, 1869, to Dec. 31, 1876, (3 vols.)
(Total, 16 vols.)
- Worthington...Worthington Advance, 1874 to 1876.

ADJACENT STATES.

- Bayfield, Wis....Bayfield Press, Oct. 13, 1870, to June 15, 1872.
- Ashland, Wis....Ashland Press, June 22, 1872, Dec. 31, 1876, (2 vols.)
- Osceola, Wis....Polk Co. Press, Jan. 1, 1868, to Dec. 30, 1876, (3 vols.)
- Superior, Wis....Superior Times, Sept. 20, 1870, to Dec. 31, 1876, (2 vols.)

Prescott, Wis...Northwestern Democrat. Dec. 14, 1858, to Dec. 14, 1859.

Prescott Journal, Jan. 1, 1868, to Dec. 30 1870.

New Richm'd, W. St. Croix, Republican. Aug. 1869, Dec. 1870.

Yankton, D. T..Yankton Press, Mar. 1, 1871, to Dec. 25, 1873.

Bismark, D. T..Bismark Press, Aug. 1873, to Dec. 27, 1876.

Fargo, D. T....Fargo Express, 1874.

Winnipeg, D. T. Manitoban, 1870-2.

News Letter, (semi-w'y) Feb. 22, to June 21, 1871.

OBJECTS OF COLLECTION DESIRED BY THE SOCIETY.

Books and Pamphlets on American History, Biography and Genealogy, particularly those relating to the West; Works on our Indian Tribes, and American Archaeology and Ethnology; Statistical and Scientific Publications of States or Societies; Books or Pamphlets relating to the Great Rebellion; privately printed works; Newspapers; Maps and Charts; Engravings; Autographs; Coins; Antiquities; and Encyclopedias, Dictionaries and Bibliographical works of every kind. Entire sets of works are especially solicited, or collections of books on any subject, but single volumes, or pamphlets even, will be gratefully received. Especially do we desire

EVERYTHING RELATING TO OUR OWN STATE.

1. Travels and Explorations; City Directories; Copies of the earlier Laws and Journals of our Legislature; Ordinances of Cities; and in short, every book, on any subject, printed in the State or elsewhere, relating to it.
2. Pamphlets of all kinds; Catalogues of Minnesota Colleges and other Institutions of Learning; Annual Reports of Societies; Sermons and addresses delivered in the State; Minutes of Church Conventions, Synods, or other Ecclesiastical Bodies of Minnesota; Political Addresses; Railroad and Board of Trade Reports; Pamphlets relating to this State.
3. Files of Minnesota Newspapers and Magazines, especially complete volumes of past years, or single numbers even. Publishers are earnestly requested to contribute their publications regularly, all of which will be carefully preserved and bound.
4. Materials for Minnesota History: Old Letters, Journals and Manuscript Narratives of the Pioneers of Minnesota; Original Papers on the Early History and Settlement of the Territory; Adventures and Conflicts during the Indian War or the late Rebellion; Biographies of the Pioneers of every County, either living or deceased, together with their portraits and autographs; a sketch of the settlement of every town and village in the State, with names of the first settlers. We solicit articles on every subject connected with Minnesota history.
5. Maps, of Town Sites or Counties, of any date; Views and Engravings of buildings or historic places; Drawings or Photographs of Scenery; Paintings; Portraits, &c., connected with Minnesota history.
6. Curiosities of all kinds for our Museum; Coins; Medals; Paintings; Portraits. Engravings; Statues; War Relics; Autograph Letters of distinguished persons, &c.
7. Facts illustrative of our Indian Tribes; Their History, Characteristics, Religion, &c.; Sketches of their prominent Chiefs, Orators, and Warriors, together with contributions of Indian Weapons, Costumes, Ornaments, Curiosities and Implements. Also Stone Axes, Spears, Arrow Heads, Pottery, or other relics of the pre-historic races.

In brief, *everything* that, by the most liberal construction, can illustrate the history of Minnesota; its early settlement; its progress or present condition, which will be of value or interest to succeeding generations.

Communications or gifts may be addressed to the Secretary of the Society, at St. Paul.

ANNUAL REPORT

OF THE

Minnesota Historical Society,

TO THE

LEGISLATURE OF MINNESOTA,

FOR THE YEAR 1877.



MINNEAPOLIS:
JOUNSON, SMITH & HARRISON.
1878.

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Hon. John M. Berry,
Hon. Geo. L. Becker,
Capt. Russell Blakeley,
J. B. Chaney, Esq.,
Hon. F. R. Delano,
Hon. E. F. Drake,
Judge Aaron Goodrich,
George A. Hamilton, Esq.,
Alfred J. Hill, Esq.,
James J. Hill, Esq.,
Rt. Rev. John Ireland, D. D.
Gen. R. W. Johnson,
Hon. N. W. Kittson,
Hon. John D. Ludden,
Ex-Gov. W. R. Marshall,

Charles E. Mayo, Esq.,
Dr. John H. Murphy,
Rev. E. D. Neill,
Judge R. R. Nelson,
Hon. John S. Prince,
Hon. Alex. Ramsey,
L. E. Reed, Esq.,
Hon. H. M. Rice,
Hon. D. A. Robertson,
Gen. John B. Sanborn,
Hon. H. H. Sibley,
Hon. John H. Stevens,
R. O. Sweeney, Esq.,
Henry P. Upham, Esq.,
J. F. Williams.

REPORT.

The close of the twenty-eighth year of the existence of the society, finds it in a most successful and prosperous condition in every particular, beyond any previous time, and we are gratified at being able to report such good progress. The past year has added to our strength and usefulness, to an unexampled degree. Our library has increased more than in any single year previously, to say nothing of the value of the books added, while every department of our work has been prospered and pushed forward with good result. In presenting this encouraging report, we do so with pride at the gratifying condition of the society, and that it has now become so well established, returning the aid and patronage of our citizens by its value and usefulness, as a public institution.

THE LIBRARY.

During the year just closed, we received the following accessions to our library: bound volumes, 1072; pamphlets and documents, 823; maps, 21; photographs and engravings, 5; MSS. 2; files of papers, 2; curiosities, 18; total, 1943 objects.

The sources from which the bound volumes were received were—by purchase, 368; gift, 293; binding, 291; exchange, 120. Of the pamphlets and documents, maps, &c., all were received by gift and exchange.

The total strength of the library, Dec. 1, 1877, is: bound volumes, 7171; unbound, 10,835; or 18,006 titles, 356 maps, &c.

PURCHASES.

Our purchases, the past year, while not large, have secured to us many valuable works and sets of works. A list of the more important ones are given in the Appendix to this report.

In all, we have purchased 368 volumes, at a cost of \$667.64, or an average of \$1.81 per volume, something less than the average price of preceding years. In addition to this, \$80.23 was expended in the subscriptions to magazines and journals, making the total for purchases, \$747.87. To this should be added \$302.05 for binding; making in all, \$949.95, expended this year on the direct increase of the library.

While this may appear a considerable sum to those who have not had experience in the purchase of books, it is really a very limited sum on which to build up a library, such as ours is expected to be, and does not allow of a very rapid increase. But even with this sum we have made not only a respectable addition in numbers, but have added works of unmistakable value and influence. The price of such works is generally pretty high, and although our library committee has become quite experienced and successful in securing bargains, yet the class of books we are now trying to procure, are not cheap, and in the nature of things, cannot be. The standard works of reference, issued by reliable publishers, are generally quite high priced, while the rare works on American history, especially local history, are now becoming scarcer and dearer each year. So many public libraries are now being formed in America, designed to cover this special field, besides a host of private collectors, many of them with more means than the public institutions themselves, the books are sought after with a competition which has resulted in greatly enhancing their price, and making it more and more difficult, each year, to secure them. In the face of this, and the extensive field we have to cover, we have sometimes been almost discouraged, on account of our inadequate means, as compared with our wants. Desirable works offered to us at a great bargain we have been compelled to decline. And this is more to be regretted, since this will result in our eventually paying far more for the works, as they are yearly growing more difficult to get, and higher in price.

We have added the past year a few encyclopedias and works of reference, dictionaries, &c. There is a class of books we should, in addition to these, endeavor to secure, i. e. costly, illustrated works, too expensive to be found in private libraries, but valuable for reference. It is expected that these should be found in public libraries, but as yet we have been unable to procure them. For the mere amusement of readers we have made no provision. There are only nine works of fiction in our entire library, and these represent special subjects.

With the limited expenditure for books we have made, our increase is certainly gratifying. It should be noted, however, that

but for the many generous gifts we have received, constituting 66 per cent. of our bound works, we could not have made the fine progress above noted.

GIFTS.

The gifts received the past year have been many and valuable, and we refer to them with grateful recognition. Dr. Samuel A. Green, for some years past a leading contributor, has again added 126 pamphlets and 2 volumes to our collection. Senator S. J. R. McMillan contributes 32 bound volumes, among them 12 volumes of the Congressional record. Rev. J. F. Tuttle, Crawfordsville, Ind., gives 37 valuable pamphlets; Irving Todd, Hastings, 93 do.; J. P. Pond, St. Paul, 10 bound volumes, 100 pamphlets, and several hundred papers; E. F. Drake, do., 10 pamphlets; G. A. Hamilton, do., 3 bound volumes and 19 pamphlets; Judge E. C. Palmer, do., 38 volumes of the Atlantic Magazine, unbound, &c. Hon. James Shaw, Mt. Carroll, Ill., I. F. A. Studdart, St. Paul, A. J. Hill, Hon. Alex. Ramsey, Gen. J. H. Baker, H. P. Upham, Hon. J. H. Stewart and others, of St. Paul, have also placed us under obligations for valuable gifts, while some others are mentioned under the heads Cabinet, Archaeology, &c.

The Commissioners of Patents of Great Britain, have generously donated 95 volumes of the abridged specifications of patents of that country. The War Department, U. S., has also contributed several volumes of Wheeler's Geographical Survey west of the 100th Meridian; while the Hayden Geological Survey have sent us a full set of the reports of that survey. These works are valuable and expensively illustrated, and relate to the region west of us, regarding which we are endeavoring to secure a complete collection, so far with much success. The Department of the Interior, Bureau of Statistics, Bureau of Education, and other departments at Washington, have also sent us valuable works at their disposal, and promise to continue the favor regularly in future.

Mrs. Rev. A. B. Paterson, widow of one of our pioneer clergymen, has given to us two manuscript volumes, of meteorological observations, kept by him from 1859 to 1876. These are valuable, because they are known to be thorough, reliable and complete.

Our sister societies have also generously remembered us, some of their contributions being quite too valuable and extensive to be classed under the head of exchanges, though sent as such. The Wisconsin Historical Society, the Massachusetts Historical Society, the Vermont Historical Society, the Historical Society of Pennsylvania,

&c., have been among the most generous donors, the first named contributing 98 bound and 52 unbound volumes.

CABINET.

Our cabinet of archaeological and historical curiosities has received some valuable additions, but we are now so pressed for room, we hardly deem it good policy to actively pursue the collection of such objects, to the exclusion of books and documents, though gratefully accepting all offered.

W. H. Williams, of Aitkin, has sent us a splendid specimen of stone axe found in that county, and some fine stalactites from Black Hills. J. H. Hanson has also contributed some gold quartz from the same region, and Benj. S. Brodbelt, a valuable specimen of gold quartz from Montana. Hon. J. H. Baker contributes a copper bracelet, a pre-historic relic, from the north shore of Lake Superior. Mr. J. H. Thurston, confederate scrip, flint arrowheads, etc. J. F. Williams donates an immense Buffalo Skull, found by him at White Earth, which must have belonged to one of the largest patriarchs of those herds which once roamed over most of our State. Clement Beaulieu, Jr. contributes a stuffed fawn's head, which is thought to be a sort of medicine charm in the Ojibwa nation; and from Charles Beaulieu, we have received one of the curious *mocaulks* of maple sugar, made by that people. Rev. Ignatius Tomazin, late of White Earth, has contributed a beautiful and curiously ornamented Indian pipe. We have also received from the late Allan Morrison, of White Earth, a cane once owned by Alex. Henry, the celebrated explorer of the northwest, made by him while a prisoner among the Ojibwas after the conspiracy of Pontiac, in 1763. Henry was grandfather of Hon. Norman W. Kittson, the well known pioneer of this state. He gave the cane, after carrying it some years, to the late Wm. Morrison, and he in turn gave it to Allan Morrison, who a short time before his death sent it to us. The Academy of National Sciences of Ottawa, Ill., D. S. Ebersol, Esq. Prest., through S. S. McKenney, Esq., of this State contributed a cast of a small cannon used by Tonti, one of the early explorers of the west, in 1683-4.

ARCHAEOLOGY.

We have also received from B. M. Randall, of St. Peter, two of the largest pre-historic stone implements ever found in this country, and which are more than usually interesting. They are immense stone hammers, shaped out of granite boulders, each weighing

some 50 or 60 lbs. They were both found in the vicinity of St. Peter, one on the surface, and the other four feet underground. It was at first somewhat of a puzzle what such ponderous hammers could have been used for, as they are too heavy to use by hand. Their shape, appearance, &c. indicate that they had been used in some sort of a frame. It is conjectured that they were fastened in an elastic beam or pole, resting on a fulcrum, and so arranged that a slight pressure of the hand would oscillate them, and that they were thus used for pulverizing corn on a flat or hollow rock. This theory is the most plausible that can be advanced, and is undoubtedly the correct one, more especially as one of the hammers was found very near a flat or hollow rock, such as described, and bearing marks evidently made by such usage.

The rapid settlement of our state, and the turning up of its soil in various places, is developing quite a number of these pre-historic remains, both of copper and stone, a few of which are from time to time finding their way into our cabinet, until we are beginning to have a very respectable collection. If our friends into whose possession such specimens may come, or who may find them in the hands of others, will aid us in securing them, we will in a short time possess a cabinet which will very well illustrate the Archaeology of Minnesota. We are in receipt of letters from time to time, from other parts of the United States, and also from Europe, making inquiry regarding pre-historic remains found in this state, and it is our intention, as soon as we can do so, to prepare and publish a monograph containing all the information on that subject which we are able to procure, and to illustrate it with suitable engravings.

BINDING,—PERIODICAL LITERATURE, &c.,

During the year we have made as diligent progress as we could, in binding our files of newspapers, and a number of magazines, documents, sets of pamphlets, &c. They are thus with comparatively small outlay, rendered available for reference and use. This has added many valuable works to our shelves. Complete sets of *Harpers Magazine*, *Atlantic Monthly*, &c. were secured in that manner. So many works accumulate in libraries which require binding, it is always a considerable source of library expense. We have avoided it, as far as possible heretofore, by purchasing these periodicals and serials in sets, already bound, but this deprives us of the use of the current numbers. The only magazines we have taken regularly the past year are such as came directly within our scope, as works of reference, viz :

Pennsylvania Magazine of History and Biography, quarterly, issued by the Historical Society of Pennsylvania.

Miscellanea Genealogica et Heraldica, edited by Joseph Jackson Howard, LL. D., London, England, monthly.

New England Historical and Genealogical Register, quarterly, issued by the New England Historic Genealogical Society, Boston.

The Library Journal, monthly, New York.

New York Genealogical and Biographical Register, issued by the New York Genealogical and Biographical Society, quarterly.

American Magazine of History, monthly, New York.

The first three of these are the generous gift of the publishers.

We have now complete, or approximately complete, sets of some of the leading periodicals and reviews of this country and England. The Gentleman's Magazine, Edinburgh Review, Blackwood's Magazine, North American Review, Niles Register, Harper and Atlantic, N. E. Historical and Genealogical Register, Hunt's Merchants' Magazine, Historical Magazine, Notes and Queries, Missionary Herald, &c., are among the most important of them. Fragmentary sets of others are on hand, which we are completing as rapidly as possible. This department of our works forms a library in itself.

These thousand or more volumes embrace exhaustive treatises, by the ablest writers, specialists in most cases, on almost every conceivable topic of history, social science, literature, philosophy, biography and theology. With the new edition of Poole's Index to Periodical Literature, which will be issued in a few months—a key to these treasures of literature—this department of our library must acquire a hitherto intangible value. We respectfully request our patrons who may have volumes or even odd numbers of magazines, to donate them to us.

PATENTS.

We continue to receive the monthly volumes of specifications of the U. S. Patent Office, and also the Patent Office Gazette, weekly. These works are now more consulted than ever. We have also been fortunate enough to secure, during the past year, the abridged specifications of the Patent Office of Great Britain, in 95 volumes classified. These, taken in connection with our American Specifications, form a truly valuable library on the subject, for professional and mechanical reference. The great impetus given to manufacturing, and labor-saving inventions the past few years, and the growing ingenuity of our people in adding to their number, demands, that every attainable aid be furnished by our library to the advance of mechanical genius in our community.

NEWSPAPERS.

During the year, 72 bound volumes of newspapers were added to our collection, and we have an equal number which still need binding. We have now over 600 bound volumes of newspapers, of which 480 are Minnesota papers. These are published in six different languages, and extend from 1849 to the present date.

Our efforts have not, however, been altogether confined to the collection of Minnesota journals. Diligent efforts have been made by our librarian to secure files of Black Hills papers. We were not able to obtain the regular issues of the publishers, but have procured copies from others, who received them. We are greatly indebted to Col. Lounsberry, of Bismark, and Louis E. Fisher, Capt. R. Blakeley, and others, of St Paul, for favors of this nature. Probably these files of the papers referred to are the only ones which have been preserved, and the early history of that locality will eventually have to be compiled largely from the papers we have collected.

In our last report we adverted at some length to the value of our newspaper collection, and the pains we are taking to render it complete. No effort has been omitted to this end. Still, there are several State papers which we have not secured, although we have made effort to do so. If therefore, some one in future who may wish to examine one of these files, fails to find it in our collection, we cannot be justly censured for its absence, as our wish and endeavor has been to make the series complete, in which we have nearly succeeded. We need not refer to the value for historical reference, of our newspaper collection. It must always be the great treasury for the facts relating to the history of our State. The collection we have is so nearly complete, that its value is very great. Indeed, it is utterly irreplaceable, at any cost, and its preservation, as the most valuable portion of our library, is one reason why we are so desirous of securing a fire-proof building, where this unique collection of the journalistic history of our State, will be safe beyond peradventure, from the destruction which may at any moment overtake it in the present inflammable and unsafe structure, or in any structure not built with especial reference to security.

Recognising the value and future usefulness of our newspaper department, our members and patrons should feel it their duty to extend it in every way. While many of them are not able to make us costly and valuable gifts, there is not one, who, by preserving files of literary, scientific, religious or political papers they may happen to take, but can thus do us a valuable and efficient service.

While it can be done with so little trouble, no member has a reasonable excuse for not contributing this valuable addition to our stores.

MATERIALS FOR HISTORY.

Not the least important part of our work, is the collection of materials, in various shapes, for our history. Much of this material, especially the pre-territorial period, has never been recorded, and can only be gained by inquiries from our oldest pioneers. These are rapidly being gathered by the "great reaper," and whatever is done in this direction, ought to be done at once, for with each of these aged pioneers who drops into the grave, perishes more or less of the unwritten history of our State. Our secretary has, so far as he was able, secured this material from time to time. But the details of library work, in our now large collection, cataloguing, and attending to the wants of the public who resort to it, leaves him little time for writing, and little opportunity of collecting anything away from home.

Last May, pursuant to instructions from the Executive Council, he repaired to White Earth Reservation, and spent some days conversing with ex-traders and other pioneers there, among them Allan Morrison, John H. Fairbanks, Clement H. Beaulieu, etc., and committed to writing minute accounts of the early days in Northern Minnesota, and the history of the Ojibwa nation, amounting to about a hundred pages of MS. Since his visit there, (in Nov. 1877,) Allan Morrison departed this life, aged 73 years. He was, at his death, undoubtedly the oldest white settler in Minnesota, having entered it in 1820. His elder brother, William Morrison, (for whom Morrison county is named,) preceeded him some 20 years. He (William) was undoubtedly the real discoverer of Itasca Lake, in 1804, an honor subsequently claimed by Schoolcraft.

As soon as he can complete the elaborate and full catalogue now in hand, our secretary designs to write up for publication in our collections, which we intend to continue from time to time, the material obtained by him at White Earth and elsewhere.

FINANCES.

For a statement of the expenditures by the Society during the fiscal year of the State, Dec. 1, 1876, to Dec. 1, 1877, reference is made to the report of the State Auditor.

OUR NEED OF A PERMANENT BUILDING.

Allusion was made in our last annual report to the growing need of more room, or more properly speaking of more secure and suitable room. Our present space is far too cramped *now* for our proper use, and it is besides unhealthy, illy lighted and ventilated, inconvenient, and unsuitable for the storage of books. In view of the present rapid growth of our collection, what we are to do for room in the future, we are unable to see. There is but one proper and wise course left for us, and that is, *to secure, as soon as possible, a building for our special use*, which shall be safe and commodious.

We believe that the time has now come when this should be provided, and that we can no longer defer the duty of taking some active and determined steps for securing such a building. In addition to the fact that we imperatively need more room, *the safety of our collection* is a matter of far more importance. It is true, we have a good insurance on our library, etc, and in the event of its destruction by fire most of the printed books could be replaced, in time; but *the most valuable part of it is utterly irreplaceable*, at any cost. We refer to our 600 volumes of Minnesota newspapers, and Minnesota documents, maps, manuscripts, pictures, etc. which record, as no other means can, the history of our State and its people, and of most of which no other copies are in existence, in in any accessible shape.

We are not justified in any longer risking the destruction of these precious archives, and we again bring this subject to the attention of the Legislature, and earnestly ask that some provision may be made for supplying us with a *fire proof building*. The destruction of our valuable library and museum would entail a loss which though deplorable now, would, as years roll on, be simply incalculable, and the folly which risked such a collection of documents in an inflammable structure one moment longer than necessary, would be viewed in its true light as an inexcusable blunder!

A building such as we should have, would cost about \$35,000. We have already secured a suitable site, now of considerable value, and can raise, among the friends of the society, a small fund towards the proposed erection. The remaining sum necessary, ought, in view of the above facts, to be furnished us by the State. We therefore earnestly ask the attention of the Legislature to this pressing and manifest need.

Provided with such a building as this, of sufficient capacity to accommodate our probable increase for some years, our progress must be much more rapid. We could then offer safe guardianship for such bibliothecal treasures as our friends and patrons may choose to put in our possession—works and documents of great rarity, or altogether unique, and which that jealous care felt by persons who have long hoarded these precious documents, perhaps heir looms in their family, has and will forbid to risk in our present building. Indeed, we have now promises that entire libraries will be given to us as soon as we can safely care for them, as well as sets of works on special subjects, and collections of documents of great rarity, also pictures and historical curiosities. Such a building would also become a depository for works of art and curiosities of value and interest, which in a short time would become a museum and art gallery which would be a source of pride to our state and of value to the public, who would enjoy its free use forever. Persons having rarities of literature or art, would then feel that they would be secure in our hands, and become interested in the growth of our collection, which with but little outlay to the State, certainly not a burdensome one, would soon become of great value.

THE PRESERVATION OF DOCUMENTS OF STATE.

could, with facilities like this, be properly cared for. It is stated as a fact, that none of the older States, and perhaps some of those more recently organized, have a complete set of their own documents. The losses by fire, by careless use, by theft, by vermin, by mould and dampness, and the many other accidents to which books are exposed, before they were properly housed and securely cared for, have, in the course of years, destroyed in some instances every copy. By the system of interchanging documents among states now in practice, 47 sets of each state's documents are supposed to be preserved in different libraries. But of these, how many, in any completeness, will be in existence a century hence, to say nothing of two or three centuries? The hazards of fire and water, war and riots, and other losses, will reduce them materially. Indeed, in view of the experience of other states, will Minnesota possess a complete set of its own documents, in another century, without a safe fire proof building to secure them in, and the special care with which we guard such memorials?

It is to prevent such total loss and destruction of materials for history, and to gather them into safe depositories, convenient for

reference, that historical societies have been organized in 42 states and territories of our union, with the special object of securing and preserving these memorials. That they have been reasonably successful, is shown by the fact that they have collected 482,000 volumes, 568,000 pamphlets, and 88,771 manuscripts, generally relating to the history of America, and have secured buildings, lands and funds valued at nearly \$2,000,000. It would be safe to estimate the value of their libraries and museums at another million, that is, if money is a measure of their value. Showing what has been accomplished by associated effort in this direction, of persons interested in preserving the history of our country, or of its various localities. How much may have been lost in some states by not having such an organized effort, we know not, but the above gratifying figures show how much has been preserved which would otherwise have been lost.

THE PRESERVATION OF CURRENT HISTORY,

which is the main work of historical societies, is at the same time one of the most important of their features. Much of the materials for history are in the most perishable shape—newspapers, pamphlets, manuscripts, documents, even political hand bills, circulars and cards. The tendency of all these is swift destruction, and in a few days or a few months after their issue they almost totally disappear. Hence the necessity of securing them at once.

The tendency of the times is to sneer at and underrate everything new. Hence the unappreciated records of to-day are passed by and lost, while those of the past are eagerly sought after. It has been truly said that "we build monuments to the memory of the prophets whom our fathers stoned, while with equal shortsightedness, we stone the prophets of to-day." And we cannot tell what apparently worthless and unnoticed waif of to-day, may in a few years have an unsuspected value and rarity. How we prize and venerate the newspapers of the revolutionary period, now dingy with age, and tattered. A century hence will not our descendants study with equal pleasure and veneration the journals of to-day, which we contemptuously cast aside, as soon as read?

Prominent among the objects of collection should be material for the *personal* history of our people. This is now becoming in our country, an object of more interest than ever, and its value is more generally felt than at any previous time. Especially may this be said of the pioneers of our State. Their rapid disappearance as a class, has made unusual demands upon us for biographical material,

which, it having been one of our specialties, we are usually able to apply. But when, a century hence, the men of that period seek memorials of those of to-day, it is to our society they will naturally supply. In anticipation of these possible wants of the future, we have endeavored to procure and preserve those memorials. The great and growing interest felt in genealogical pursuits in this country, making the old records of a century ago of precious value—making even an old census list or a tattered poll list a prized relic—warns us to preserve now, *everything* which can record for those of coming generations, the *names* at least, and as much more as is possible, of the pioneers of Minnesota and its various parts.

OUR WORK—ITS FUTURE.

It will thus be seen that the field we are designed to occupy is an extensive one, and is constantly growing in scope and usefulness. The work laid on us is broad and important, more so even than the founders of our society could have anticipated. It may be truthfully said of them that they builded better than they knew. A work has been given us to perform of far reaching usefulness—one which we have been and even yet are, unprepared, so far as means are concerned, to properly perform, though every day has added to our facilities and advantages. That work was originally divided into three general divisions, 1. Collection, 2. Preservation, 3. Publication, of materials for the history of Minnesota. In each of these departments we have been successful to a gratifying degree, even with our insufficient means. We hope soon, especially in a secure building, to obtain endowments and bequests, and to receive gifts of special funds. Some have been promised us, and they will probably be available ere long.

It needs time also, as well as means, to symmetrize and perfect a work such as we are engaged in. To build up a library of any value and completeness, cannot be done in a day, so to speak, even with ample revenue. Nor can our other departments of work be thoroughly organized and completed, without patient labor and carefully laid plans, extending through years. But we are now gathering the harvest of these years of labor and care, and accepting our present gratifying condition as an indication of still more success to crown our wishes in the future, we hopefully submit this report.

APPENDIX A.

LIST OF DONORS.

FROM INDIVIDUALS.

	Bound Vols. Pamphlets.	
Allen, Zachariah, Providence, R. I.....	1	
Andrews, C. C., Stockholm, Sweden.....		2
Becker, Geo. L., St. Paul.....		1
Baker, Gen. J. H., St. Paul.....	1	
Brooks, Rev. J., Minneapolis.....		1
Burt, David, Supt. Pub. Instruction.....	3	
Bradlee, Rev. C. D., Boston.....	1	3
Burke, Thos. S., New York.....		1
Burbank, H. C., St. Paul.....	1	
Cherry, P. P., Wadsworth, O.....		1
Campbell, W. M., St. Paul.....	1	
Coleman, Rev. Lyman, Easton, Pa.....		20
Childs, E. O., Newton, Mass.....	1	
Creighton, Rev. J. R., Mankato.....		1
DePeyster, J. W., Tivoli, N.Y.....		1
Drake, E. F., St. Paul.....		10
Ebersol, D. S., Ottawa, Ill.....		2
Farnsworth, R. L., St. Paul.....	1	
Faddis, Wm., St. Paul.....	1	
Freudenreich, Geo. A., Alexandria, Minn.....		1
Garrison, W. P., New York.....		1
Green, Dr. Samuel A., Boston.....	2	126
Goodrich, Aaron, St. Paul.....		1
Gillilan, Rev. J. A.....	1	
Guild, Chas. H., East Somerville, Mass.....		1
Hart, Charles Henry, Philadelphia.....		1
Howard, Joseph J., LL.D., London, England.....		12
Hill, James J., St. Paul.....		3
Hough, Dr. F. B., Lowville, N.Y.....		1
Harrison, Geo. L., Pa.....	1	
Hurd & Houghton, Boston.....		5
Hamilton, G. A., St. Paul.....	1	31
Herrick, N. J., Lawrence, Mass.....		1
Jarvis, Dr. Edward, Rochester, Mass.....		1
Kelly, O. H., Louisville, Ky.....	1	
Kelly, Wm. H., do.....		1
Knickerbacker, Rev. D. B., Minneapolis.....		1
Lathrop, Rev. H. Clearwater, Minn.....		6
Langridge, W. B., Iowa.....	2	
Marshall, Wm. R., St. Paul.....	2	
Meeker, J. R., St. Louis, Mo.....	1	

Merrill, D. D., St. Paul.....		3
McMillan, Hon. S. J. R., St. Paul.....	32	
McClure, Geo. C., St. Paul.....	2	
McAllister, John A., Philadelphia.....		1
Mead, Frank J., Minneapolis.....	3	
Neill, Rev. E. D., Minneapolis.....	1	1
Palmer, E. C., St. Paul.....		426
Pierson, John S., New York.....		1
Parry, R. R., Philadelphia.....	1	
Pond, J. P., St. Paul.....	12	100
Ramsey, Hon. Alex., St. Paul.....	1	2
Rollins, John R., Lawrence, Mass.....	1	
Scharf, J. Thomas, Baltimore.....	1	
Shaw, Hon. Jas., Ill.....	2	4
Smith, Gen. J. C., Chicago.....	2	
Stewart, Hon. J. H., Congress.....		1
Smucker, Isaac, Newark, O.....		1
Stoddart, I. F. A., St. Paul.....	7	
Strong, Rev. J. W., Northfield, Minn.....		1
Stephens, W. Hudson, Lowville, N. Y.....	1	
Thomson, Peter G., Cincinnati, O.....		2
Todd, Irving, Hastings, Minn.....		93
Tuttle, Rev. J. F., Crawfordsville, Ind.....		37
Trubner, N., London.....		4
Thomas, Prof. W. B. B., Trenton, N. J.....		6
Upham, H. P., St. Paul.....	2	
Whitman, Allen, St. Paul.....	1	2
Wilkeson, Samuel, New York.....		2
Williams, J. Fletcher, St. Paul.....	4	3
Williamson, Rev. T. S., St. Peter.....		1
Wilson, W. L., St. Paul.....	1	
Wiley & Sons, New York.....		1
Young, Edward, Washington.....	3	5

FROM SOCIETIES AND INSTITUTIONS.

American Congregational Association, Boston.....		1
Academie Royale de Copenhagen.....	2	2
American Antiquarian Society, Worcester, Mass.....		3
Astor Library, New York.....		1
Brown University, Providence, R. I.....	1	
Bureau of Statistics, Stockholm.....		40
Boston Public Library.....		20
Cobden Club, London.....		1
Commissioner of Patents, U. S.....	12	
Commissioners of Patents, Great Britain.....		95
Department of Interior, Washington.....	53	
Engineers Department, U. S. A., Washington.....	5	
Essex Institute, Salem, Mass.....		9
Free Public Library, Worcester, Mass.....		1
First Parish Library, Dorchester, Mass.....	1	
Humane Society, Boston.....		1
Harvard College.....		1
Historical Society of Philadelphia.....		3
Kansas Historical Society.....		1
Leeds Philosophical and Literary Society, Leeds, Eng.....		1
Library Company, Philadelphia.....		1
Massachusetts Historical Society.....	4	
Massachusetts Horticultural Society.....		1
Montana Historical Society.....	1	
Mercantile Library Association, San Francisco.....		1
Mercantile Library Association, New York.....		1

Maryland Historical Society.....		1
New England Historic-Genealogical Society.....		1
New Jersey Historical Society.....	1	
New Haven Historical Society.....	2	
Ohio Historical and Philosophical Society.....		8
Oberlausitschen Gesellschaft der Finenschaften Gorlitz.....		3
Peabody Museum of Archaeology and Ethnology.....		1
Peabody Institute, Baltimore.....		1
Pioneer Society of Michigan.....		1
Rhode Island Historical Society.....		23
Societe Hollandaises des Sciences, Haarlem.....		4
Tasmania, Colony of.....		1
University of Minnesota.....		1
Verens für Kuust and Alterthum, Uhn.....		1
Vermont Historical Society.....	10	
Wisconsin Historical Society.....	98	52
Worcester Society of Antiquity.....		1
Yale College.....		4
Young Men's Mercantile Library, Cincinnati.....		1

APPENDIX B.

BOOKS PURCHASED.

BIOGRAPHY AND GENEALOGY.

- Memoir of John Quincy Adams. 8vo. Boston, 1858.....Josiah Quincy.
 Eulogies on Adams and Jefferson. 8vo. Hartford, 1826.
 Memoirs of Aaron Burr. 2 vols. 8vo. New York, 1837....Mathew L. Davis.
 Life of Henry Clay. 2 vols. 8vo. New York, 1846.....Calvin Colton.
 Life of De Witt Clinton. 8vo. New York, 1849.....Wm. W. Campbell.
 Life and Times of Benj. Franklin. 2 vols. 8vo. Boston, 1864. James Parton.
 Memoir of Chaplain Fuller, &c. 8vo. Boston, 1864.....R. F. Fuller.
 Life of Gen. Nath'l Greene. 2 vols. 8vo. New York.....Geo. W. Greene.
 Life of W. H. Harrison. 8vo. Cincinnati, 1824.....Moses Dawson.
 Life of Thomas Jefferson. 3 vols. 8vo. New York, 1858.....H. S. Randall.
 Life of Thomas Jefferson. 8vo. Boston, 1875.....Jas. Parton.
 Life of Thomas Jefferson. 12mo. Philadelphia, 1876.....Thos. J. Davis.
 Life of Gen. Lafayette. 18mo. London, 1830.
 Sermons on Death of Abr. Lincoln. 4vo. Boston, 1865.
 Obsequies of Abraham Lincoln in New York. 8vo. New York, 1865.
 Poetical Tributes to Lincoln. 8vo. Philadelphia, 1865.
 Life of Abraham Lincoln. 8vo. Boston, 1872.....W. H. Lamon.
 Life of Francis Marion. 8vo. New York, 1844.....W. G. Simms.
 Life of John A. Quitman. 8vo. New York, 1860.....J. F. H. Claiborne.
 Life of John Randolph, of Roanoke. 8vo. New York, 1850....H. A. Garland.
 Life of Joseph Reed. 2 vols. 8vo. Philadelphia, 1847.....Wm. B. Reed.
 Life of Wm. H. Seward. 8vo. Albany, 1873.....Charles Francis Adams.
 Life of Hon. L. W. Tazewell. 8vo. Norfolk, 1860.....H. B. Grigsby.
 Thoreau, The Poet Naturalist. 12mo. Boston. 1873.....Wm. E. Channing.
 Private Life of Dan'l Webster. 8vo. New York. 1853.....Charles Lannan.
 Life of Daniel Webster. 2 vols. 8vo. Boston. 1870.....Geo. T. Curtis.
 Life of Geo. Washington. 2 vols. 8vo. Philadelphia. 1833....John Marshall.
 Annals of the American Pulpit. 5 vols. 8vo. New York. 1859.
 Wm. B. Sprague.
 Genealogical Register, &c. 8vo. Boston. 1859.....Abner Morse.

THE CIVIL WAR.

- History of the Civil War in America. 2 vols. 8vo. New York.
 John S. C. Abbott.
 Buchanan's Administration, &c. 8vo. New York. 1866.....Anon.
 Light and Dark of the Rebellion. 8vo. Philadelphia. 1863.
 Loyal Publication Society Tracts. 8vo. New York. 1864.
 Cave Life in Vicksburg. 12mo. New York. 1864.
 Annals of the Army of the Cumberland. 8vo. Philadelphia. 1863.
 Mr. Dunn Browne's Experiences in the Army. 12mo. Boston. 1866 ...Anon.

- Leaves from a Troopers Diary. 12mo. Philadelphia, 1869.
 Red Tape and Pigeon Hole Generals. 8vo. New York, 1864.
 Richmond During the War. 12mo. New York, 1867.....Anon.
 Synopsis of the American War. 12mo. London, 1866.....J. R. Balmie.
 The Peninsular Campaign and its Antecedents. 8vo. New York, 1864.
 J. G. Barnard.
 Is Davis a Traitor. 8vo. Baltimore, 1866.....Albert T. Bledsoe.
 History of the Navy during the Rebellion. 8vo. New York, 1867.
 C. B. Boynton, D. D.
 Sherman's Historical Raid. 8vo. Cincinnati, 1875.....H. V. Boynton.
 Speeches of John Bright on the American Question. 8vo. Boston, 1865.
 Lights and Shadows of the Great Rebellion. 8vo. Philadelphia, 1866.
 L. P. Brockett.
 Woman's Work in the Civil War. 8vo. Philadelphia, 1867...L. P. Brockett.
 Four Years in Secession. 8vo. Hartford, 1865.....Junius H. Browne.
 War Lyrics and Other Poems. 12mo. Boston, 1866.....H. H. Brownell.
 Libby Life. 8vo. Philadelphia, 1865.....Lt. Col. F. F. Cavada.
 Following the Flag. Army of the Potomac. 12vo. Boston, 1865...C. C. Coffin.
 Debates of the Peace Conference. 8vo. New York, 1866...L. E. Chittenden.
 Crimes of the Civil War, Etc. 8mo. Baltimore, 1868.....H. Clay Dean.
 Reminiscences of Forts Sumpter and Moultrie. 12mo. New York, 1876.
 A. Doubleday.
 History of the American Civil War. 3 vols. 8vo. New York, 1867-70.
 J. W. Draper.
 Shelby and His Men. 8vo. Cincinnati, 1867.....John N. Edwards.
 Diary of an Army Surgeon. 8vo. New York, 1863.....Thomas T. Ellis.
 Heroes of the War for the Union. 8vo. Cincinnati, 1864...Rev. P. V. Ferree.
 The Story of the Guard. 8vo. Boston, 1863.....Mrs. Jessie B. Fremont.
 Uprising of a Great People. 12mo. New York, 1861....Count de Gasparina.
 Four Years in the Saddle. 8vo. New York, 1866.....Col. Harry Gilmore.
 The Capture, Prison Pen and Escape. 8mo. New York, 1870...W. W. Glazier.
 Three Years in the Federal Cavalry. 8vo. New York, 1876.Capt. W. Glazier.
 Journal of Army Life. 8vo. San Francisco, 1874.....R. Gilsan.
 Life in the Army. 8vo. Philadelphia, 1866.....Rev. J. Chandler Gregg.
 The Story of a Regiment (6th O.) 8vo. Cincinnati, 1868....E. Hannaford.
 Prison Life in Richmond. 8vo. Philadelphia, 1862.....Lt. Wm. O. Harris.
 Our Boys—Experiences in the Army. 8vo. Philadelphia, 1864...A. F. Hill.
 History of the Seventy-Third Ohio Volunteer Infantry. 8vo. Chillicothe, 1876.
 Samuel H. Hurst.
 Rebel Invasion of Maryland and Pennsylvania. 12vo. Philadelphia, 1866.
 M. Jacobs.
 Rebel War Clerk's Diary. 2 vols. 8vo. Philadelphia, 1866....J. B. Jones.
 Down in Tennessee, Etc. 8vo. Boston, 1863.....Edmund Kirke.
 Among the Pines. 8vo. New York, 1865.....Edmund Kirke.
 On the Border. 8vo. Boston, 1867.....Edmund Kirke.
 History of the 138th Pennsylvania Regiment. 12mo. Norristown, 1866.
 O. Lewis.
 American Bastile. Illegal Arrests, Etc. 8vo. Philadelphia, 1869.
 John A. Marshall.
 Kilpatrick and Our Cavalry. 12mo. New York, 1865.....James Moore.
 Five Years in Texas. 8vo. Cincinnati, 1871.....Thomas North.
 The First Year of the War. 8vo. Richmond, 1862.....E. A. Pollard.
 Southern History of the War. 2 vols. 8vo. New York, 1866...E. A. Pollard.
 History of the First New Jersey Cavalry. 8vo. Trenton, N. J., 1871.
 Henry R. Pyne.
 Campaigns of Lt. Gen. N. B. Forrest. 8vo. Cincinnati, 1868.Jordan & Pryor.
 Military History of Wisconsin. 8vo. Chicago, 1876.....E. B. Quiner.
 Keel and Saddle; Forty Years Military and Naval Service. 8vo Boston, 1873.
 J. W. Revere.
 History of the Civil War in the U. S. 8vo. Philadelphia, 1865.
 S. M. Schmucker.
 History of Massachusetts in the Civil War. 2 vols. 8vo. Boston.
 Wm. Schouler.
 Chronicles of the Great Rebellion. 8vo. Cincinnati, 1868.Rev. Allen M. Scott.

Oration on the Pilgrims of Maryland. 8vo. Gettysburg, 1842.

Rev. J. McCaffrey.

History of Maryland. etc. 8vo. Baltimore, 1811.....J. L. Bozman
Early History of Maryland. 8vo. Baltimore, 1821.....T. W. Griffith.
The Founders of Maryland. 8vo. Albany, 1876.....E. D. Neill.
History of Kanawha County, Va. 8vo. Charleston, 1876.....G. R. Atkinson.
History of Virginia (1747) 8vo. New York, 1865, (reprint).....Wm. Stith.
Sketches of Virginia. 8vo. Philadelphia, 1850.....Rev. W. H. Foote.
History of Virginia, to 1771. 12mo. Philadelphia, 1819.....J. H. Campbell.
Sketches of Western North Carolina. 8vo. Raleigh, 1877.....C. L. Hunter.
History of North Carolina. 2 vols. 8vo. Philadelphia, 1812.....H. Williamson.

Sketches of North Carolina. 8vo. New York, 1846.....Rev. W. H. Foote.
History of Alabama, Ga. and Miss. 2 vols. 8vo. Charleston, 1851.

A. J. Pickett.

History of Texas. 12mo. Cincinnati, 1839.....D. B. Edward.
History of Texas. 2 vols. 8vo. New York, 1856.....H. Yoakum.
Journal of a Tour into the N. W. Ter. 8vo. Boston, 1805.....T. M. Harris.
History of Border Wars. 8vo. Chicago, 1874.....C. R. Tuttle.
Historical Collections of Coshocton Co., O. 8vo. Cincinnati, 1876. Wm. E. Hunt.
History of Champaigne and Logan Counties, O. 8vo. Belfontaine, 1872.

I. Antrim.

Historical Collections of Mahoning Valley, O. 8vo. Youngstown, 1876.
Outlines of History of Michigan. 8vo. Detroit, 1876.....J. O. Campbell.
History of Indiana. 8vo. Indianapolis, 1875.....Goodrich and Tuttle.
Old Times in McLean Co., Ill. 8vo. Bloomington, 1876.....Dr. E. Davis.
Lake County, Indiana. 1834-1872. 8vo. Chicago, 1872.....Rev. T. H. Ball.
History of Peoria, Ill. 8vo. Peoria, 1870.....C. Ballance.
Illustrated History of Missouri. 8vo. St. Louis, 1876.....Davis & Durrie.
Pioneer History of Milwaukee. 8vo. Milwaukee, 1876.....Jas. S. Buck.
History of Geneva, Wis. 8vo. Geneva, 1875.....Jas. Simmons.
The Cattle Trade of the West and Southwest. 8vo. Kansas City, 1874.

J. G. McCoy.

The Plains of the Great West. 8vo. New York, 1877.....R. I. Dodge.
The Great Divide. 8vo. New York, 1876.....Earl of Dunraven.
The Pioneers of the West. 8vo. New York, 1855.....W. P. Strickland.
Summer Etchings in Colorado. 4vo. New York, 1873.....Eliza Greaforex.
The Mormons, or Latter Day Saints. 8vo. London, 1852.....Anon.
Life Among the Mormons, &c. 8vo. New York, 1868.....Anon.
The Rocky Mountain Saints. 8vo. New York, 1873.....T. B. H. Stenhouse.
Mineral Region of Lake Superior. 12mo. Buffalo, 1846.....J. Houghton, Jr.
Journal of Rev. P. Jacobs, Hudson Bay. 12mo. New York, 1857.
The Wild North Land. 8vo. Philadelphia, 1874.....W. F. Butler.
The Fur Country, &c. 8vo. Boston, 1874.....Jules Verne.
The Prairie Province, &c. 8vo. Toronto, 1876.....J. C. Hamilton.
Snow Shoes and Canoes. 8vo. London, 1877.....W. H. G. Kingston.
Life in California, &c. 12mo. New York, 1846.
Adventures in California. 2 vols. 8vo. London, 1850.....Wm. R. Lyon.
History of California. 12mo. Boston, 1854.....E. S. Capron.
Scenes of Wonder, &c., in California. 8vo. San Francisco, 1862. J. M. Hutchins.
All over Oregon and Washington. 8vo. San Francisco, 1862.....Mrs. F. F. Fuller.
Oregon and El Dorado. 8vo. Boston, 1866.....Thomas Bulfinch.

INDIANS, &C.

Antiquities Discovered in the West. 8vo. N. D.Caleb Atwater.
Algie Researches, &c. 2 vols. 12mo. New York, 1839.....H. R. Schoolcraft.
Oncota, or the Red Race of America. 8vo. New York, 1845.

H. R. Schoolcraft.

The American Indians, Their History, &c. 8vo. Buffalo, 1851.

H. R. Schoolcraft.

History, &c., of the North American Indians. 8vo. Lond. 1824.

James Buchanan.

- New Indian Sketches. 8vo. New York. 1860.....Rev. P. J. DeSmet.
 History, &c., of the Indian Nations. 8vo. Philadelphia. 1876.
 John Neckwelder.
 Life of Black Hawk. 12vo. Boston. 1845.....J. B. Patterson.
 Catholic Missions among the Indians. 8vo. New York. 1854...John G. Shea.

GENERAL LITERATURE, ETC.

- Poems of Henry W. Longfellow. 2 vols. 18vo. Boston. 1875.
 Three Memorial Poems. 8vo. Boston. 1877.....J. R. Lowell.
 The Works of Edgar Allan Poe. 4 vols. 8vo. New York. 1876.
 Works of Washington Irving. 27 vols. 8mo. London. 1820-37.
 Works of Daniel Webster. 6 vols. 8vo. Boston. 1851.
 Writings of Thomas Jefferson. 9 vols. 8vo. 1853-4.....H. A. Washington.
 Voyages and Travels in North America. 8vo. Andover. 1820..D. H. Harmon.
 Blackwood's Edinburgh Magazine. Vols. 1-23.

PRIMITIVE MAN, BIOLOGY, &C.

- Our Place Among Infinities. 8vo. New York. 1876.....R. A. Proctor.
 The Expanse of Heaven. 8vo. New York. 1876.....R. A. Proctor.
 Fragments of Science. 8vo. New York. 1877.....John Tyndall.
 Tribune Popular Science. 8vo. Boston. 1874.
 Cotemporary Evolution. 8vo. New York. 1876.....S. Geo. Stewart.
 Evolution and the Origin of Life. 12mo. London. 1874.....H. C. Bastian.
 Theory of Evolution. 8vo. London. 1873.....Rev. Geo. Henslow.
 The Recent Origin of Man. 8vo. Philadelphia. 1875.....James C. Southall.
 Early Man in Europe. 8vo. New York. 1876.....Charles Ran.
 Primeval Man. 12vo. New York. 1874.....Duke of Argyll.
 Life History of Our Planet. 8vo. Chicago. 1876.....Wm. D. Gunning.
 The History of Creation. 12mo. New York. 1876.....Ernst Haeckel.
 Pre-Historic Man, &c. 8vo. London. 1876.....Daniel Wilson.
 The Great Ice Age, &c. 8vo. New York. 1875.....James Geike.
 Climate and Time, &c. 8vo. New York. 1875.....James Croli.
 The Earth, as Modified, &c. 8vo. New York. 1874.....Geo. P. Marsh.
 Story of the Earth and Man. 12mo. New York. 1873.....J. W. Dawson.

DICTIONARIES AND ENCYCLOPEDIAS.

- Dutch and English Dictionary. 4o. Amsterdam. 1749.....W. Sewel.
 Hebrew and English Dictionary. 8vo. New York. 1846.....W. L. Roy.
 Welch Dictionary. 2 vols. 8vo. Denbigh. 1866.....W. O. Pughe.
 Noted Names of Fiction. 8vo. Boston. 1876.....Wm. A. Wheeler.
 Dictionary of English Language. 2 vols. 8vo. London. 1775.....John Ash.
 Dictionary of English Language. 4o. London. 1810.....John Walker.
 English Dictionary. 2 vols. 4vo. Edinburgh. 1854.....John Ogilvie.
 Dictionary of obsolete and prov. English. 2 vols. 8vo. London. 1869.
 Thomas Wright.
 Encyclopedia of Education. 8vo. New York. 1877.....Kiddle & Schen.

SOCIAL SCIENCE.

- Civil Liberty and Self Government. 8vo. Philadelphia. 1859..Francis Lieber.
 Primer of Political Economy. 12mo. Chicago. 1875.....Mason and Loder.
 Essays on Political Economy. 12mo. Boston. 1875.....Horace Greeley.
 The Conflict Between Labor and Capital. 8vo. Philadelphia. 1876.
 A. S. Bolles.
 The Election of Representatives. 8vo. London. 1873.....Thomas Hare.
 Religion and the State. 12mo. Boston. 1874.....Alvah Hovey.
 Religion and the State. 8vo. New York. 1876....Samuel T. Spear, D. D.

ANNUAL REPORT
OF THE
MINNESOTA HISTORICAL SOCIETY,
TO THE
LEGISLATURE OF MINNESOTA,
FOR THE YEAR 1878.



MINNEAPOLIS,
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MINNEAPOLIS:
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HON. H. H. SIBLEY.

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2. CAPT. R. BLAKELEY.

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Hon. John S. Irgens, Secretary of State.
Hon. Orlen P. Whitcomb, Auditor of State.
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REPORT.

The year just closed has been marked with unusual features in the history of our Society, some of which have retarded our progress, while others have in the highest degree been a source of encouragement and hope to us. Upon the whole, we have made gratifying progress in our work.

OBJECTS OF HISTORICAL SOCIETIES.

At the outset, it may be asked, "what *is* that work referred to?" As this report will fall into the hands of many who have but an imperfect idea of the objects, province and scope of a society like this, some explanation of them may not be out of place.

A historical society, such as is now fostered in almost every prosperous state of our Union, may be defined, simply, as an organized and associated effort of persons interested in the collection and conservation of materials for history, and the diffusion of learning, by blending the means, energies and experience of a multitude of persons in various localities interested in such pursuits, into an united effort to accomplish that end. While each could doubtless accomplish much by individual effort and isolated action, (and there are notable instances where great results have been accomplished by enthusiasts in this direction), by co-operating together, with a common purpose, a common receptacle for gathered treasures, and by mutual aid and encouragement, the historical societies of this and other countries have been enabled to perform a most important and valuable work—one already apparent to the scholar and friend of learning, but whose results though not now fully appreciated by the general public, will, in a few years be apparent to all.

The original charter of this Society, dated in 1849, stated its objects to be: "the collection and preservation of a library, mineralogical and geological specimens, Indian curiosities, and other matters and things connected with, and calculated to illustrate and perpetuate the history and settlement of said Territory." The amended charter of 1856 enacted: "The objects of said society, with

the enlarged powers and duties herein provided, shall be, in addition to the collection and preservation of publications, manuscripts, antiquities, curiosities, and other things pertaining to the social, political and natural history of Minnesota, to cultivate among the citizens thereof, a knowledge of the useful and liberal arts, science and literature."

The work of this Society may therefore be formulated thus:

I. (1) The Collection, (2) the Preservation, and (3) the Publication, of materials for the history of Minnesota.

II. The collection and management of a library containing useful works of reference on the most valuable departments of knowledge.

III. The diffusion among the citizens of the State, of useful knowledge.

I. COLLECTION OF MATERIALS FOR HISTORY.

1. The collection of these materials for the history of our State and its people, is perhaps the most difficult portion of the work described in the first division above. so widely scattered are the sources of information and so great their variety. These materials are both printed and manuscript matter, and both written and unwritten. The printed material would include everything in the shape of books, pamphlets, documents, maps, engravings, newspapers, circulars, hand bills, cards, etc., which may, by contents, relate to the State and its people, or throw any light on any portion of their history. Much of this material is little valued now, and not preserved by any but the curious. Yet with the lapse of time, these unnoticed waifs become of great value from their rarity, and they often bring prices that astonish the inexperienced. It may be but a pamphlet, a circular, a mere printed scrap, yet containing some date, some name, or some statement of fact, that may be of great value to some person or class of persons interested in that one matter. The value of an institution whose chief aim is to secure and preserve these things — unprized to-day, priceless to-morrow — is thus shown; otherwise *every* copy of some of the articles might become lost. Frequently persons expend considerable time and means to hunt up and secure some trifling document, map, hand-bill or what-not, while securely preserved in a library like this, that trouble and expense is saved to them. Those who have not in some way had experience in collecting such matters, can but little realize how almost unobtainable they become after the lapse of time. Having fortunately commenced our collection some years ago, at the birth of our commonwealth, while the *objects* were more easily obtain-

able, and continued their accumulation carefully since, our collection has become very complete—more complete, possibly, than can now be made except with large outlay and trouble, even if some of the matters can be had at all—newspapers, for instance, many volumes of which in our collection are entirely unique.

A large and valuable portion of these materials for our history is as yet in unwritten form, and consists of reminiscences of our pioneers and early settlers. If not collected and recorded for preservation, it must soon perish completely, as these old pioneers are fast being "gathered, like sheaves full ripe." It is an important portion of our task to secure and commit to writing these memoirs, through our members and collaborators, and we have had good success in so doing. Such of this early history as has been written is in widely scattered and obscure forms—letters and miscellaneous manuscripts, diaries and documents of various kinds, liable to loss if not secured by those knowing their value, and which can only be discovered and secured by persevering search.

2. The preservation of these materials is included under division II, as the library portion of our work, and will be fully explained there.

3. The publication of the materials gathered, in the best attainable manner, for the use of the public, and of scholars elsewhere, is also one of the aims of the Society. It is not so important a portion of our work, however, as continued publication of the materials gathered by us, is being made in various ways, by persons using the same, thus relieving us of that expense and responsibility, and making the results available in different forms.

II. COLLECTION AND MANAGEMENT OF A LIBRARY.

That a general library of some completeness is necessary to the work of a society like this, must be evident. The researches after materials upon the history of Minnesota, as enumerated in I. (1), would necessarily result in accumulating a considerable collection of works and documents bearing directly on that subject, and, in addition a large number on subjects germane thereto, and necessary to its completeness and full scope. Thus, under the latter division, would be needed such works as the Jesuit Relations, Charlevoix's History, Letters Edifiantes et Curieuses, The Margry Papers, and works generally on Nouvelle France and Louisiana, early explorations and travels, and histories of the Northwest. Then, histories of the West generally, and finally, of America, together with all the State papers, archives and documents relating to the

above subjects. In addition to these, a full equipment of material for research, would require quite a list of works on the Indian races of North America, and on archaeology and ethnology generally, while treaties on geology and other branches of natural history, on statistics, on commerce, etc., together with maps and atlases and dictionaries, of various kinds, biographies and genealogies, even, would all be found necessary. In short, it would be found that there are really but few classes of work usually kept in libraries, which would not be needed as reference works by one studying nothing but the history of Minnesota, in all its bearings. Thus it will be seen how a considerable library would spring up without going beyond the work required in division I. Its extension, to include *all* subjects of useful knowledge, would be but a natural outgrowth from such a beginning, in fact, would become necessary, since libraries will grow, and thus we have the library portion of our work, now become so important and valuable. This would naturally fall into two subdivisions. (1) The collection, through gifts from members and correspondents, or secured by soliciting donations from the public at large, and from exchanges of duplicates and our own publications with other societies, and by purchase. (2) The preservation and management, according to the best rules of the bibliothecal science, of the works so collected, and keeping them in an accessible shape for the use of the public, with properly prepared catalogues, etc. The library portion of our work is more fully spoken of in the pages following.

The collection of a museum has been diligently carried on, so far as purely historical and archaeological curiosities is concerned, relating mostly to our own State. The natural history of our State has not been much illustrated, as it is believed the natural history societies already organized can better perform that work than we can, with the small means we would be able to devote to it.

III. THE DIFFUSION OF KNOWLEDGE.

The cultivation of a knowledge of, and taste for, the useful and liberal arts, science and literature, has perhaps been less directly carried out than any of the other duties laid on us, for want of the necessary means. With a proper building for an art gallery, an audience hall for lectures, and a fund with which to pay lecturers and scholars for services rendered, this division of our work could be easily performed. To some extent it is, already, but only incidentally to our other work. Our library furnishes scholars and students ample material for researches, and the knowledge thus de-

rived, is diffused in many ways, by lectures, addresses, sermons, press contributions, state papers and official reports, pamphlets, and books.

THE LIBRARY.

Let us now briefly glance at the library portion of our work. Owing to causes mentioned elsewhere, it exhibits but a small increase the past year. On Jan. 1, 1878, there were 7172 bound and 10,835 unbound volumes. During 1878 there were received from all sources, 257 bound and 449 unbound volumes, together with 51 maps, 2 photographs or engravings, 85 curiosities, or articles for the cabinet, &c.

The sources from which the bound volumes were received, were: by gift, 178; by exchange, 33; by purchase, 10; by binding, 37. All the pamphlets, maps, &c., were received by gift or exchange.

The total number of bound volumes now in the Library is 7,469, and unbound, 11,284 or an aggregate of 18,753 titles. This does not include the Ramsey collection (mentioned elsewhere) nor the series of bound newspapers given by Col. Goodrich; neither of which were received when this report closes, (Jan. 1.)

PURCHASES.

Our purchases during 1878, as referred to before, were so small as scarcely to afford a noticeable element of our increase. We had hoped to expend during the year, the average amount of previous years, say \$500, and in our estimates of expenditures presented to the finance committees of the 20th Legislature, as a basis for our annual appropriation, that amount was inserted. To our regret, the item was stricken out, on the grounds that the State expenditures were too large, and must be reduced somewhere, thus depriving us of our means to purchase. Without expressing any censure at the action then had, we cannot but regard the refusal to grant us the small sum named as having originated in a misapprehension of the necessities of the case. The sum in itself was not large—and compared with lavish appropriations made at the same time, was actually trifling. A public library like this *must* purchase, more or less. The wants of the public which resort to such a collection, demand more or less additions of certain classes of books, which can only be secured by purchase. The sum named is less than many well to do gentlemen in our State spend on their private libraries in one year, and ours must cover a multitude of subjects, and yet be more or less thorough in each. With the small sum named how-

ever, (though it should, in fact, be thrice the amount) we can, with the care and judgment exercised by our Library Committee, and their experience in purchasing cheaply, make quite a respectable increase. There has not been, for many years, such an opportunity to purchase advantageously, as during the past few months. The financial stringency cast has been the means of throwing on the market a great number of fine collections, and they have, in general, been sold at prices lower than have ruled for years. It grieves us to see these choice gatherings of collectors going under the hammer for a mere song, and we not able to avail ourselves of the fine bargains offered. Nor, indeed, is it economy to defer the purchase of the books we need, and must have, to complete our collection. They must soon advance again to greater prices than before. Indeed, as buyers well know, despite these temporary depressions, books "out of print" are steadily enhancing in price all the time, as the number of buyers in this country is rapidly on the increase. Public libraries are springing up here and there in great numbers, many of them with large endowments, while private collectors, accumulating libraries on special subjects, and spending their money with the well known lavishness of bibliomaniacs, all tend to render rare books still rarer, and dearer. If our State expects its Historical Society, on which it has laid the duty of collecting a library useful to its people and creditable to its own intelligence and culture, to stand abreast of other institutions and maintain a useful existence, the support given to it must necessarily be commensurate with the demands on it. At present, we regret to say, our means are sadly below our wants.

It had been our expectation to expend quite an amount in completing the binding of the newspapers and pamphlets which had been accumulating for some time, but the proviso attached to the appropriation for the Society (see clause 26, chapter 97, Gen. Laws 1878) rendered our funds unavailable for a considerable portion of the year, and we did not get them in hand until so late a date that we have had only time to bind 29 volumes. Fully thrice that number, besides some 200 volumes of smaller works, are now awaiting the binders care. This item of our expenditure must always be a considerable one, for it is a work most necessary to be done.

GIFTS.

The stream of generous and timely gifts, a source which has mainly built up our collection to its present valuable and gratifying condition, continues to flow in to us with widening and deepening

ing volume. A full list of the donors to the library during the year 1878, will be found in the appendix, but special mention must be made of some of the gifts received.

First among these is the gift, by Hon. Alex. Ramsey, President of the Society during its first 13 years, of his entire private library, consisting of over 1,000 volumes, thus constituting by far the largest gift ever received by the Society from any one person, to say nothing of the intrinsic value of the works. These are especially valuable to a library like ours, as they consist chiefly of state papers, documentary and archival works relating to the U. S.; the statistical and scientific works issued by the government, a full set of debates, congressional proceedings and reports, blue books, etc. Not the least valuable of these works are 33 volumes of Minnesota newspapers, commencing in 1849, and a number of bound volumes of pamphlets on various subjects of political economy and social science, finance and law. Taken as a whole, it constitutes a splendid library for the use of our legislature, public officers and statisticians, furnishing information and authorities on innumerable questions which constantly arise in public matters. They represent a collection made with patient care during some 25 years of public life, 16 of which were passed in Congress, a position exceptionally favorable to securing such documentary works. They are all in good binding, and, shelved and catalogued with our other works in that department, make our library very complete and valuable in a direction which is of manifest importance. Not only our Society—for whose welfare Ex-Senator Ramsey has been a diligent worker for nearly 30 years, but the whole State, must feel grateful to him for his very acceptable gift.

Next must be noted the generous contribution, by Col. Earle S. Goodrich, of St. Paul, of some 22 volumes of the "Daily Pioneer," and "Daily Pioneer & Democrat," the oldest, and for many years the ablest journal in Minnesota, of which he was editor and publisher for some twelve years. This desirable gift completes our file of that well known journal, and makes it beyond doubt the only absolutely complete file in existence. For the period during which it was published, it may well be termed, "a history of the State."

Our generous friends of former years have not been unmindful of us the past twelve months. From our liberal patron, Dr. Samuel A. Green, of Boston, we have received 61 pamphlets; from Rev. J. F. Tuttle D. D. of Wabash College, Ind., 6 bound and 24 unbound works, of more than usual value; Rev. C. D. Bradlee, of Boston, contributes 10 pamphlets; Prof. Allen Whitman, St. Paul, 17 do; Joel Munsell, Albany, 13 do; Col. D. A. Robertson, St. Paul, 45 do;

Charles E. Mayo, St. Paul, 10 do; Dr. J. H. Stewart, 14 do; Rev. J. W. Strong, D. D. of Carleton College, 9 do; Wm. H. Kelley, 9 do; J. F. Williams, 23 bound volumes; Geo. A. Hamilton, 6 bound and 13 unbound volumes; Dr. John J. Dewey, contributes valuable files of Minnesota and New York papers, in addition to those received from him before. Desirable gifts have also been received from Gen. R. W. Johnson, Gen. H. H. Sibley, Hon. S. J. R. McMillan, Rev. M. McG. Dana, Hon. H. M. Rice, R. A. Brock, Va., Isaac Smucker, Ohio. J. A. Fay & Co. Cincinnati, and other friends, whose names have appeared on our list of donors from year to year, with a faithful regularity which constitutes them our generous patrons.

Maps have been received as follows: Col. E. F. Brigham, 1; War Department, Chief Engineer's office, 42; Maj. Gen. Sherman, 6; Charles Hause, 1; H. F. Masterson, 1. Newspaper cuttings from Dr. T. S. Williamson, R. A. Brock, and the Historical Societies of Delaware and Nova Scotia.

MUSEUM, ARCHÆOLOGY, ETC.

During the year several very valuable and interesting specimens of archæological implements were received, enriching our cabinet in that department. Hon. C. C. Brandt, of Brown county, contributes a stone axe from that locality, and a meteorolite, both very interesting. Mark L. Wildes, of Lake Washington, Le Sueur county, contributes a fine collection of lithal weapons and instruments, 65 arrow-heads, 2 flint knives, 1 bone skin-dresser, and 1 fine stone hammer, all found in that vicinity; a truly valuable collection, showing that our state affords a good field for the study of archæology — a field which has as yet been but little explored, and will richly repay the antiquarian who devotes himself to it.

In this connection we again refer to the remarkable stone hammers, evidently used for pulverizing corn, found near St. Peter, and presented to the society last year by B. M. Randall of that city. Prof. Winchell, State geologist, inserted in his recent annual report of the State geological survey (the 7th) a very well executed engraving of the stones, and the supposed manner of their use, from a drawing executed by Robt. Ormsby Sweeny, of our Society. It had been our design to insert something of the kind in our printed report, but as it had been already so well presented, covering the whole ground of the subject, we are spared that outlay. Other engravings of aboriginal weapons and implements are given by Prof. Winchell, and we learn that Mr. Randall, continuing his search in the region where the two colossal hammers above noted

were found, has discovered still another, full as interesting as either of the first pair. Several of the members and correspondents of the society, in various parts of the State, have recently secured aboriginal implements, and will forward them to us at first opportunity. We have now more room than before for displaying our cabinet, and our friends may secure all the specimens they can find and forward to us, without fear of overcrowding this department.

Among "curiosities" not archaeological, we note a piece of tree, found 27 feet below the surface, contributed by A. J. Hunt, of Brownsdale; a very large specimen of *caloptenus spretus*, from Rev. E. R. Lathrop, Zumbrota; specimens of Confederate currency, from H. R. Bunnell and W. H. Mitchell; photographs or engravings, from Rev. E. Livermore, St. Peter, Truman M. Smith, St. Paul, etc.

EXCHANGES—PUBLICATIONS.

Sister societies and libraries in correspondence with our own, over 100 in number (some of them in Europe) continue to generously exchange publications with us, and a valuable and considerable part of our increase comes from that source. Our librarian has made every effort to render an equivalent for the favors received, by forwarding such duplicates and State documents as he could procure or had in hand, for that purpose. We have of our own four volumes of publications, a sufficient reserve on hand for all purposes, but as all corresponding societies have been supplied with these already, no more can be used thus. If we could continue the printing of our collections it would add greatly to our resources for exchange material. It has now been four years since the issue of a number. Several papers have been kindly offered to us by members and friends, but they were on subjects not connected with the history or geography of our State, to which we have heretofore limited them, and it would not be good policy to open our annals to include miscellaneous writings.

In this connection we may state that Hon. Henry M. Rice, offers us the use of a very valuable manuscript in his possession, written by the late Truman M. Warren, on "The Ojibwa Nation; their Origin, History, Religion," etc. Mr. Warren, who was himself an Ojibwa half-blood, spent some years in its preparation, and with opportunities and qualifications that perhaps no other writer ever possessed, united to an ardent and devoted love of the subject. The MS. passed into Mr. Rice's possession at an outlay of over \$1,000. He offers it to us, however, at a much less sum, and one that in our opinion is far below its marketable value. Our Secre-

tary has critically examined it, and has no hesitation in declaring it a most important and valuable addition to the knowledge which we possess regarding one of our aboriginal nations, which formerly held sway over a large portion of our State, and whose history is so greatly interwoven with our own. Our Society ought to possess this MS. and publish it. It will, properly edited, (for which work our Secretary has obtained the necessary data) and with preface, index, &c., make a work of about 400 pages. The small amount of funds placed at our disposal, precludes the purchase by us, but if some special arrangement can be made for its purchase and transfer to our hands, we will thus be enabled to prepare for the use of the public, and of scholars everywhere, a work which will reflect credit on the State.

CATALOGUE.

The manuscript catalogue of bound works in the library, to which reference was made in our last report, is now completed and in convenient shape for use, being bound in two volumes. It was prepared after the most approved rules of bibliographical science, and in accordance with the best models of professional skill in that line. As noted above, it includes, as yet, only bound books. The catalogue of unbound works, some 12,000 in number, is now in progress, and will be pushed to completion as rapidly as possible. With the limited time which can be actually devoted to it however, amid the diverse and engrossing duties which now press on our single working officer, it will be some months before it can be completed. When done, it would be well if the entire catalogue could be printed; but that is a question perhaps now premature, and can well be deferred until the copy is complete.

OUR NEW ROOMS.

In our last report, the question of procuring a fire-proof building for the use of the Society, was discussed at length. The necessity for more space was apparent to any one who had, during the preceding few months, visited the apartments of the Society, and was remarked by all. The only way to secure it, seemed to be—to build. To that end, we made the request in our report, for sufficient means to partly erect the hall. A bill for that object was introduced into the Senate, and we at once (through a committee appointed for that purpose) set about securing subscriptions for the balance required. In the latter work we met with the most encouraging success, several very liberal subscriptions having been received

almost unsolicited, and in a few weeks the entire amount needed would beyond doubt have been pledged. While this was in progress, the officers of the Society had been conferring with members of the Legislature interested in the measure, and hope was entertained that the bill above mentioned might pass. But on further consultation with the finance committee and State auditor, it was found that the tax levy of the preceding year had been inadequate to produce revenue enough for the necessary current expenditures of the State, and all outlay that could be deferred, would have to lay over to more propitious times. At this [discouraging juncture, however, a new and unexpected way out of our embarrassment was opened. Hon. Edmund Rice, of the House, had already introduced an act for the enlargement of the Capitol building, by erecting a new wing, or addition on the west end, for the use of the House of Representatives. Finding that this enlargement would provide us with the much needed room, we voluntarily withdrew the bill which had been introduced for our building, and ceased further efforts to secure subscriptions towards it. Mr. Rice's bill passed, and the new wing was erected as provided therein.

The new rooms thus prepared for our accommodation, consists of the entire basement of the new wing, 50 by 100 feet in area, or 47 by 97 in the clear. The main library room is 47 by 75 feet in size, and amply lighted by 7 windows. It has two entrances, one from the interior of the building, the other on Wabasha Street. The general appearance of this room has, unfortunately, been much marred by the insertion of two rows of posts to support the floor above, after the building was nearly completed, as it was alleged by some that it was not strong enough. These additional pillars not only detract from the appearance, but are seriously in our way. Otherwise, the room is very suitable, has good light and ventilation, is well warmed by steam pipes, and provided with a water closet, wash room, &c. Some of the interior finishing is, however, badly done, a natural result of the cheap contract system—such as the plastering, painting, etc., while the floor appears to have been laid with very imperfectly seasoned lumber, and is already badly warped and seamed. This was not discovered until after we had occupied the rooms, and too late to remedy the defect by relaying it. We have so much more room now, and the apartments altogether are so much superior to the old rooms, these little defects scarcely constitute a drawback.

The northern portion of the floor is divided into two rooms each about 22 feet square. One of these has been furnished as a *salon* for our meetings, for the display of our pictures, a reception room,

and other purposes. The other is constructed into a double fire-proof vault, for the safety of our newspaper collection and other irreplaceable property. We have expended from our own funds over \$300 in endeavoring to render this vault secure, and believe it is now free from any danger by fire. It is surrounded by walls 20 inches thick, and has heavy iron doors and shutters. Over head it is protected by a ceiling of brick, arched on heavy iron beams, and has a concrete floor. This vault will contain 1,000 bound volumes of newspapers, and all other property which we wish to make safe beyond peradventure.

On leaving our old rooms we were compelled to abandon a considerable amount of shelving and fixtures, which had cost us over \$250, and expend more than that amount in book-cases and furniture to take their place. This, with the cost of fitting up our vault, has drawn very heavily on our small means. The constantly enlarging demands on us in many ways by the public for their accommodation, betokens that, while we have always managed the institution with the most careful and rigid economy, the day of small things has passed, and our enlarged field and enlarged wants, will require enlarged means and expenditures.

OUR FINANCES.

Below will be found a summary of our expenditures from Jan. 1, to Dec. 31, 1878, inclusive:

For purchase of books.....	\$ 75 13
For binding of books.....	14 95
For express and freight charges.....	20 69
For postage.....	37 17
For furniture.....	4 10
For printing.....	6 50
For repairs and alteration of room.....	212 75
For stationery.....	3 25
For miscellaneous items.....	24 80
For service.....	1,500 00
	<hr/>
	\$ 1,899 34

The amount appropriated for our use in 1878 was \$2,500. Several bills for furniture and work in our new rooms, amounting to some \$400, were due at the date of this report, but not included in the expenditures.

THE REAL ESTATE OF THE SOCIETY.

The fact that we are now provided with apartments which, with the increase which we will probably enjoy, will answer our wants for several years, has given rise to another question, i. e., would it not be good financial policy for us to sell our real estate, and fund the proceeds, the interest on the same being applicable to the increase of our library? If we do not design or expect to build on our lots for some years (and it is safe to say we will not) would it not be a measure of wisdom and prudence to secure the use or income of so much capital? The property now rents for a nominal sum, which the trouble of collecting almost balances. They are probably worth \$10,000. If sold for that sum, and invested in government 4 per cents, or some other interest-bearing security, the revenue derivable would be quite a handsome income for us; and, if at the end of some years, we are compelled to build, an equally good site can without doubt be secured for the same amount. Ten years ago this same question came up, and we were only prevented from selling by the prohibitory clause in our charter. Had we sold then, we could have meantime expended \$6,000 on our library, a sum we are not justified in losing for another ten years. It would seem, then, to be good policy for us to ask that the prohibitory clause be expunged from our charter.

THE CHARTER, AND QUESTIONS ARISING UNDER IT.

About the date of our last annual report some articles had found their way into the public prints regarding differences which had arisen in the Society, about the construction to be placed on some of the provisions of our charter. Perhaps an explanation of how this arose may not be out of place.

The question raised was: Whether the words, "and their associates", used in the charter of 1849, conferred the power to elect others not named in the act, so that the number of members of the Society would be increased beyond the nineteen persons named? A portion of our members became convinced, after their attention had been called to it, that such power was not conferred, and that the act of 1856, creating an executive council of 25 members, was consequently inoperative. The survivors of the original corporators, six in number, and successors to the deceased, elected by them, effected an organization in accordance with those views. Thus it came about that there were two organizations, each claiming to be the Minnesota Historical Society. As the only way to adjust such

a disagreement was by referring it to some court for a decision, the Legislature of 1878 ordered this to be done, and directed that the appropriation made at that session for the Society, should be paid only to the organization decided legal and proper by such court. (See clause 26, sec. 1, chap. 97, laws of 1878.)

Very soon after this, the question was submitted to the Supreme Court of Minnesota, in the shape of a *Quo Warranto*, directed to the corporators. The question was ably argued on both sides, and submitted to the court, which, on December 5th, filed a decision, that the original organization (of 1849) was the proper one, and that the one effected by the corporators in 1877, could not exercise the powers of the Society. The opinion in full is given in the appendix to this report.

It is hoped that all parties concerned are now satisfied with the decision, and that it will set at rest all doubts regarding the legality of our organization. We have only to add, that the entire question was discussed, and the legal test effected, in an amicable and cordial spirit, and all parties were in the meantime working and contributing for the common success of the Society. A newspaper discussion regarding the case at issue, carried on by two or three of the members, at one time became somewhat pungent, and may have been mistaken by the public for some real acrimony supposed to exist. Such was not the case.

It may also not be out of place to add, that all expenses of testing the question in the courts were paid by subscription of the members, and not a cent of the funds appropriated by the State were used for that purpose, nor was the work of the Society retarded in any manner by the issues raised.

CONCLUSION.

In closing this report, the Historical Society can pardonably speak of the very successful condition in which it enters on the thirtieth year of its existence. It is a subject of congratulation, too, that so many of the original founders and organizers of the Society are still with us. Some of our most faithful and active members are those who have been working for the success of the Society during the whole twenty-nine years of its existence.

And in view of the difficulties under which we have labored during the earlier years of the Society, we may feel some pardonable pride in our present standing, and at the success we have compelled. Of the future, now that the imperfections of our organization have been happily cured, there is no doubt. It is with institutions as

with men—the world is ready to help the successful ones, though it would not have aided them when they really needed it. To paraphrase a now trite saying, “the way to succeed is to succeed.” We have demonstrated its truth.

It might sometimes seem that we could have done more. But ours was a work that could not be hurried. “Great libraries,” it has been said, “like oak forests, grow slowly, and cannot be hurried to maturity”—especially when nourished by scanty means.

It has been observed that our connection with the Society is a trust. We have always regarded it as such, and in that view our efforts have been expended to make it successful. Whether we have faithfully administered it as such, been prudent, economical and diligent, our works must show. While no human institution, managed by human men, is ever free from criticism, and none altogether escape the imputation of being fallible, we cannot but feel that we have been laborers in a good work, and submit it as it now stands, to our citizens who have laid the trust on us, as worthy of their continued aid, confidence and good will.

APPENDIX A.

DECISION OF THE SUPREME COURT.

The State of Minnesota ex rel, the Attorney General, relator, vs. Henry H. Sibley et al., respondents.

Substantially the claim of respondents, as set forth in their answer, is based upon the proposition that the corporation, which was created by the territorial act of October, 20, 1849, contains and can contain but nineteen members; and those the corporators therein named, and such others as have since or may hereafter be chosen by such body, to fill any vacancies in their number occasioned by death or otherwise; and that the corporate body as thus constituted is rightfully entitled to the exclusive possession and enjoyment of all the rights, powers, privileges and franchises which were conferred by that act. In support of this proposition it is claimed that the word "associates" in the first section of the charter is without meaning, as there used, and has no force or effect whatever. This claim is clearly repugnant to the general rule of construction which requires some effect to be given to every word or provision of a charter or statute whenever it can be done without violence to any other provision or to the general tenor and purpose of the enactment, as was said by Chief Justice Shaw in delivering the opinion of the court in *Lechmere Bank vs. Boynton et al.* 10 Cush. 380, "the term associates as often used in acts of incorporation is ambiguous. It may mean those who are already associated with the persons named, or those who may come in afterwards." And the inquiry here, as it was then, is to ascertain in what sense the word is used in the particular charter under consideration.

In determining this question it is admissible, if necessary, to consider any competent evidence aliunde the charter, in explanation of the ambiguity. If a charter granted in terms to several persons therein named and their associates, was in fact granted upon the joint request and application of those named and others associated with them in applying for it, it might reasonably be supposed that the legislature intended to embrace them all within the grant, and that the word associates was used to designate those of them not specially named in the charter. If, however, the grantees so named had no actual associates at the time, or if the charter was given by the legislature of its own motion and without solicitation or application from any one, the use of such term in the connection

here found might very properly be regarded as intended to apply to such persons as might become members of the corporation, upon and after its organization. And this latter is evidently the sense in which the term is used in the charter under consideration, for it is not claimed nor pretended that it was procured by or upon the request of the grantees therein designated by name, or that it was founded upon any petition or application whatever. That the term as here used is not meaningless, as claimed by respondents, is further apparent from the language and the whole tenor of the act itself. It is first enacted "that the nineteen persons therein designated and their associates be and they are hereby constituted a body corporate and politic, by the name of the Minnesota Historical Society," and then in proceeding to enumerate the special powers and franchises which are conferred, and how and by whom they shall be exercised, this significant language is used: "And by that name they (the corporators named and their associates) and *their* successors shall be, and they are hereby made capable in law to contract and be contracted with, sue and be sued," etc. The legislature could scarcely have chosen more plain and unequivocal language in which to express an intention that the continuous artificial body it was about to create should consist of a membership comprising the grantees named in the charter, their associates and the successors of both these classes, instead of the successors of the original grantees alone, and that the powers and franchises vested in the corporation should belong to it as representing for the time being the entire body of its then existing members of whatsoever class. The grantees so named in the act as the then sole possessors of the franchises, had of course the exclusive right of rejecting the charter or of accepting its provisions and organizing the corporation under it. When this latter was done, their functions as such original corporators merely were at an end. The society thereupon sprang into active life and being, as a distinct corporate entity, and became immediately possessed of all the rights, privileges and franchises expressly conferred by the charter, and endowed with all such other incidental powers and attributes not prohibited by it, as belong, under such circumstances, to every private corporation aggregate. It had thereupon the right to admit new members at pleasure, for every such corporation possesses that incidental power when not restrained by its charter, and the charter in this instance contains no such restriction. Angell & Ames, on Corp. Sec. 83. In the exercise of this as of every corporate power not regulated by some charter provision, it could provide general rules upon the subject in its by-laws, subject to alteration and amendment, prescribing the terms and conditions of membership, and the mode of admitting new members, or it could determine each case as it arose, according to its own pleasure. "for in every case involving the exercise of a corporate power not otherwise regulated in the charter, the sole law of the corporation is the collective will of a majority of its members as expressed while regularly acting together in a body in their organized capacity." The society in this instance, at its first organized meeting, and before the adoption of any by-laws, elected as its first president, for the term of three years, without objection so far as appears, an honored and distinguished citizen, who forthwith took upon himself the duties of the office, and thenceforth for the entire term continued to exercise its functions without question as to his right to do so. He has since been re-elected, and held the same office, and has always exercised and enjoyed the rights and borne the duties and responsibilities of a member. Yet it is now claimed that he has never been such in fact and law, for the reason that he was not one of the original corporators named in the charter, nor the lawful successor of one, and for the further reason that for a long time after the

adoption of the constitution and by-laws of the society he failed, through inadvertence or otherwise, to sign the same, in accordance with a direction therein contained. Like objections are urged against the asserted legal rights of other parties to be considered members who, though admitted under and in pursuance of the by-laws, and constantly recognized and allowed to act as members of the society, in all its corporate transactions and doings for years, have, nevertheless, omitted likewise to comply with this requirement of the by-laws. The first of these objections, which applies also to all members who have been admitted under the by-laws of the society, has already been sufficiently considered and held invalid, on the ground that the corporate right of admitting new members was vested in the corporation representing all its members, and not in the original nineteen and their successors alone. The other objection is equally untenable. The provision of the by-laws in question is simply directory. A mere failure to comply with it, unintentionally, as was manifestly the fact here, if followed for years by an active participation in the corporate doings of the society without question from any one, will not invalidate a membership thus asserted, acted upon and acquiesced in. The foundation of the right of membership is the mutual consent and agreement of the corporation and the party claiming or asserting it; and in all cases where this exists, and the fact of membership has been distinctly recognized and acted upon by both parties for years, the right exists, unless there is some specific provision in the charter to the contrary. The election of a party to office whose duties can only be performed by a member of the corporation, and permitting him to enjoy and exercise its functions for a long period of time, unchallenged by any one, are corporate acts of the strongest character, evidencing an assent of the corporation to the admission of such party to all the rights and privileges of membership. Upon this branch of the case the conclusion is that the corporate body which was created by the original charter of October 20, 1849, consisted at the time the amendatory act of March 1, 1856, was passed, of the then remaining members of the corporation first named in the charter, and such of their then associates as had been theretofore admitted to membership by the society, according to its by-laws, or in any other lawful way.

This brings us to the consideration of the question whether said act of 1856 has been accepted in its entirety by the society as thus constituted. The act itself is silent upon the subject of its acceptance. The original charter contains no provision regulating the manner in which the corporate right of consenting to amendments shall be exercised, nor providing for its exercise for and in behalf of the society by any body of its officers or any portion of its members. The right, therefore, resides in the corporation itself to be exercised by and through the collective body of all its members. A formal vote of acceptance by a majority of such body, duly convened for that purpose, would be an acceptance binding upon the corporation. But this mode of acceptance is not indispensable, when, as in the case before us, no statutory provision exists requiring it. It may be done by any corporate act which clearly recognizes the validity of the amendment, and necessarily presupposes an acceptance of its provisions and benefits by the corporation; and if the new act grants additional powers and privileges to the company of a beneficial character, an acceptance may be presumed upon slight evidence. These rules are too well settled upon principle and authority to require discussion, or admit of dispute. *Angell & Ames on Corp.*, Sec. 83. *Sons of Temp. vs. Brown*, 11 Minn., 356. *R. R. Co. vs. Smith*, 47 Me., 34. *Com. vs. Cullen*, 13 Pa. st., 133.



That there has been an unqualified acceptance by the society in this case of all the provisions of the act of March 1, 1856, is beyond any reasonable controversy upon the evidence before us. At a special meeting held soon after its passage, a resolution was adopted and spread upon the records of the society, declaring an acceptance in express terms, and that it would then proceed to the election of an executive council under its provisions, to take charge of the affairs of the corporation, as was therein provided, and such council was there and then unanimously elected by the members there present. Conceding the irregularity and even the invalidity of these proceedings, as claimed by respondents on the ground that the requisite notice of such meeting had not been properly served upon all the members, it is clearly shown that their validity has remained unquestioned, and been distinctly and repeatedly recognized and acted upon by the society at various subsequent regular meetings and by various corporate acts for over twenty years. The entire administration of the affairs of the society for that whole period has been conducted by the executive council then chosen and ever since continued under the provisions of section two of the amendatory act, by the exercise on its part of the corporate powers of the society and by the selection of its agents and officers, as therein provided, and this without any protest whatever from any one until quite recently. The additional privileges and powers granted by that act have also been used by the society in acquiring and holding exempt from taxation a large amount of real and personal property in excess of the limit prescribed by the original charter. Under these circumstances there would seem to be no ground for any serious controversy on the question of acceptance.

For the reasons above stated the court awards judgment of ouster against the respondents.

CORNELL, J.

NOTE.—Associate Justice Berry took no part in this case.

APPENDIX B.

LIST OF DONORS.

I. FROM INDIVIDUALS.

	Books.	Pamphlets.
Hon. Charles Francis Adams, Boston.....		2
Dr. C. H. Boardman, St. Paul.....	1	
Josiah Boothby, Australia.....	1	
Rev. C. D. Bradley, Boston.....		10
R. A. Brock, Richmond, Va.....		3
C. P. Chapman, Mankato.....		1
Robert Clarke & Co, Cincinnati.....		1
Charles H. Clark, Minneapolis.....		1
Howard H. Cleveland, St. Paul.....		1
P. Cudmore, Le Sueur.....		1
Hon. C. K. Davis, St. Paul.....		1
Rev. M. McG. Dana, St. Paul.....	4	
Franklin B. Dexter, Librarian, Yale College.....		2
Dan'l S. Durrie, Madison, Wis.....		1
Dr. Samuel A. Green, Boston.....		61
Geo. A. Hamilton, St. Paul.....	6	13
C. L. Hall, St. Paul.....		1
Joseph Jackson Howard, L. L. D. London.....		12
Victor Hjortsberg, St. Paul.....	6	
Hon. John S. Irgens, St. Paul.....	1	
Chas. W. Johnson, Minneapolis.....		1
Gen. R. W. Johnson, St. Paul.....	1	
R. C. Judson, Farmington.....		1
Dr. Geo. H. Keith, Minneapolis.....		1
Wm. H. Kelly, St. Paul.....		8
Frederick Kidder, Boston.....		1
M. D. Kinyon, St. Paul.....		1
Rev. D. B. Knickerbacker, Minneapolis.....		1
Hon. John Jay Knox, Washington.....		2
Gen. Wm. G. Le Duc, Washington.....	10	1
L. P. Lee, New Britain, Conn.....		1
Hon. John Blair Linn, Harrisburg, Pa.....	1	
Manton Marble, New York.....		1
C. M. McCarthy, St. Paul.....	2	
Hon. S. J. R. McMillan, St. Paul.....	16	
Charles E. Mayo, St. Paul.....	9	10
Prof. A. C. Morey, Winona.....		1
Frank J. Mead, Minneapolis.....		1
Joel Munsell, Albany, N. Y.....		13
Rev. E. D. Neill, Minneapolis.....		1

T. M. Newson, St. Paul.....		1
Gen. W. H. Parsons, New York.....		1
S. W. Pennypacker, Philadelphia.....		1
Hon. H. M. Rice, St. Paul.....	11	
Col. D. A. Robertson, St. Paul.....		45
Gen. H. H. Sibley, St. Paul.....	2	
James Shoemaker, Mankato.....	1	
Hon. A. C. Smith, Litchfield.....	1	
Isaac Smucker, Newark, O.....	2	
Dr. J. H. Stewart, St. Paul.....		14
Thos. J. Suddard, Chicago.....		1
Rev. J. W. Strong, D. D., Northfield.....		9
Col. Wm. H. Taylor, St. Paul.....		1
Rev. J. F. Tuttle, Crawfordsville, Ind.....	6	34
Allen Whitman, St. Paul.....		17
D. R. Whitney, Boston.....	1	
A. H. Wilder, St. Paul.....	1	
J. Fletcher Williams, St. Paul.....	28	1

II. SOCIETIES AND INSTITUTIONS.

American Antiquarian Society.....		2
American Congressional Association.....		1
Astor Library.....		1
Bureau of Education.....		3
Boston Public Library.....		1
Bunker Hill Monument Association.....	2	
Chicago Historical Society.....	5	80
Commonwealth of Mass.....	1	
Davenport Academy of Natural Science.....		1
Delaware Historical Society.....		10
Department of the Interior.....	57	1
Department of Agriculture.....	2	
District Historical Society, Ohio.....		2
Essex Institute.....		8
Engineer Department, U. S. A.....	3	
Free Public Library, Worcester, Mass.....		1
Georgia Historical Society.....	1	
Harvard College Library.....		1
Historical Society of Pa.....		1
Iowa Historical Society.....		1
Kansas Historical Society.....	7	11
Library Co. of Philadelphia.....		1
Library of Congress.....		3
Long Island Historical Society.....		2
Maryland Historical Society.....		3
Mercantile Library Association, N. Y.....		1
Massachusetts Historical Society.....	3	
Massachusetts Horticultural Society.....		3
Minnesota Academy of Natural Science, Minneapolis.....		2
New England Historic Genealogical Society.....	1	1
New England Society of Orange, N. Y.....		1
New Jersey Historical Society.....		1
New York State Library.....		1
Peabody Educational Fund.....		1
Peabody Institute, Baltimore.....		1
Peabody Museum of Archaeology, Cambridge.....		1
Public School Library St. Louis.....		1
Rhode Island Historical Society.....		2
Rollins Publishing Co. Chicago.....	1	
Secretary of War.....	2	
San Francisco Library Association.....		1
Surveyor General of Canada.....		2

OBJECTS OF COLLECTION DESIRED BY THE SOCIETY.

Books and Pamphlets on American History, Biography and Genealogy, particularly these relating to the West, Works on our Indian Tribes, and American Archaeology and Ethnology; Statistical and Scientific Publications of States or Societies; Books or Pamphlets relating to the Great Rebellion; privately printed works; Newspapers; Maps and Charts; Engravings; Autographs; Coins; Antiquities; and Encyclopedias, Dictionaries, and Bibliographical works of every kind. Entire sets of works are especially solicited, but the loan of books on any subject, but single volumes or pamphlets, even, will be gratefully received. Especially do we desire:

EVERYTHING RELATING TO OUR OWN STATE.

1. Travels and Explorations; City Directories; Codes of the entire Laws and Journals of the Legislature; Ordinances of Cities and in some cases books on any subject, printed in the State or elsewhere, relating to it.
2. Pamphlets of all kinds, Chronicles of Minnesota, colleges and other institutions of Learning; Annual Reports of Schools; Sermons and Addresses delivered in the State; Minutes of Church Conventions, Synods, or other Ecclesiastical bodies of Minnesota; Political Addresses; Parliamentary Record of Trade Reports; Pamphlets relating to this State.
3. Files of Minnesota Newspapers and Magazines, especially complete volumes of past years, or single numbers even. Publishers are earnestly requested to contribute their publications regularly, all of which will be carefully preserved and bound.
4. Materials for Minnesota History: Old Letters, Journals, and Manuscript Narratives of the Pioneer of Minnesota; Original Papers on the Early History and Settlement of the Territory; Annals and Events during the Indian War or the late Rebellion; Biographies of the Pioneers of every County, either living or deceased, together with their portraits and Autographs; a sketch of the settlement of every town and village in the State, with names of the first settlers. We solicit anything on every subject connected with Minnesota History.
5. Maps of Town Sites or Counties, of any date; Views and Engravings of buildings or historic places; Drawings or Photographs of Scenery; Paintings, Portraits, etc., connected with Minnesota history.
6. Curiousities of all kinds for our Museum: Coins, Medals; Paintings; Portraits; Engravings; Statues; Wax Models; Autographs of Letters of distinguished persons, etc.
7. Facts illustrative of our Indian Tribes: Their History, Characteristics, Religion, etc.; Sketches of their prominent Chiefs, Warriors, and Warriors, together with descriptions of Indian Weapons, Customs, Occupations, Characteristics and Languages. Also State Accounts, Trade Goods, Pottery, and other articles of the primitive past.

In short, *everything* that, by the most liberal construction, can illustrate the History of Minnesota, its early settlement, its progress, or present condition, which will be of value or interest to succeeding generations.

Communications, etc., may be addressed to the Secretary of the Society, St. Paul.

